

Title: Need to provide special grant to State Government of Kerala to check menace of wild animals of Kannur and Wayanad districts.

SHRI A.P. ABDULLAKUTTY (CANNANORE): Sir, many villages of Kannur and Wayanad districts of Kerala are badly affected by the serious menace of attacks by wild animals causing a great loss to agriculture and human lives.

The northern districts of Kannur and Wayanad of Kerala have a vast forest area, about 25 kilometers in length lying on the border with Karnataka State.

The most affected areas are: Thirunelli, Panchayats in Wayanad district and Aralam in Kannur district.

Last year alone, six persons were killed, many others seriously injured in attacks by wild elephants and caused loss to agriculture amounting to lakhs of rupees. In November this year, the Government-run Aralam Farm was virtually devastated by herds of elephants destroying hundreds of coconut trees.

At times, when there is a shortage of food and water inside the forest, the animals, especially the wild elephants, venture out of the forest to the human-inhabited areas in search of food and water resulting into the loss of human lives and destruction of properties.

To prevent this menace, immediate steps are to be taken like fencing and digging of trenches alongside the forest.

I, therefore, request the Government to kindly take note of the seriousness of this problem and take necessary action so that lives and properties of the people in this area are protected. I request that special grant should be provided to the State Government of Kerala for this purpose.