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Title: Need to check the menace of wild animals threatening the lives and agricultural produce in Wayanad district, Kerala and provide regular compensation for the recurring losses incurred by farmers.

SHRI M.I. SHANAVAS (WAYANAD): The mainstay of economy of Waynad district is agriculture and a significant population of this district are small and medium farmers. A serious crisis is now looming over the farming community of Waynad. Animals, especially elephants, wild boars, and common Langur attack and destroy farms and cause severe loss to agricultural produce and pose threat to humans as well. The standard procedures to fend off animals are fencing and digging of trenches. However, the effective completion and maintenance of trenches and fences are not carried out by the state forest department. Trenches were built under the Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Scheme, but the effective maintenance and extension of such trenches are not carried out effectively.

The people residing in wildlife inhabited areas should be rehabilitated with necessary compensation for relocation. There must be immediate steps to check rapid deforestation and shrinking of forest space which act as the main reasons for animals straying into human habitations. Another serious issue about the compensation, which incidentally is given only once for a person, when attacks by animals take place on a recurring scale. This anomaly in release and award of compensation should be rectified immediately and a policy framework regarding the management and administration of wildlife administration with regard to damage to agriculture property should be framed.