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Title: Regarding elephant menace in Balasore and Mayurbhanj districts in Odhisha.

SHRI RABINDRA KUMAR JENA (BALASORE): Thank you Sir for giving me an opportunity today. This issue is not only of serious consequence for the people of my constituency in Mayurbanj and Balasore districts but it also exposes a very serious issue for the people of the country as a whole.

Sir, for the last three years, there have been as many as 483 incidents where the people of my area have been attacked by wild animals, mostly by elephants. For the last 11 days itself, six people have died because of these attacks. Why is there a menace by elephants and other wild animals? Why are they coming towards the habitations leaving the forests? The basic thing is that there is a dearth of food. There is no food in the forest, so the wild animals are coming and killing the people of our area. Those animals are also damaging crops and ransacking the houses. Now, the fundamental question is how to stop it. I urge upon the Government to take serious cognizance and address this issue so that the merciless killing of the people in my area are stopped forthwith and the remedial measures in terms of trenches, fences and structures are created immediately so that the merciless killing of the innocent people who are mostly tribals are stopped forthwith.