

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE

LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 1083
TO BE ANSWERED ON 08.02.2019

Death of Elephants

1083. SHRI GAJANAN KIRTIKAR:
SHRI S.R. VIJAYAKUMAR:
SHRI S. RAJENDRAN:
KUNWAR HARIBANSH SINGH:
SHRI T. RADHAKRISHNAN:
SHRI SUDHEER GUPTA:

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

- (a) the number of elephants that have died unnaturally in the country during each of the last three years and the current year;
- (b) whether the Government has conducted any inquiry in each of the matter and if so, the details and the outcome thereof;
- (c) whether the wildlife elephants have made chaos in the life of people living in different parts of the country as they have ruined most of the villages and if so, the details thereof;
- (d) whether the Government has taken any necessary steps in this regard and if so, the details thereof;
- (e) the number of houses destroyed and persons killed by the wild elephants during the last three years, State/UT-wise; and
- (f) the steps taken by the Government to minimize the impacts of human-wildlife conflict including human-elephant conflict?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE
(DR. MAHESH SHARMA)

- (a) Details of elephants deaths due to unnatural reasons like train accidents, electrocution, poaching and poisoning during the last three years and current years, as per the information received from states, across the Country is as under.

Year	Train Accident	Electrocution	Poaching	Poisoning	Total
2015-16	9	57	33	5	104
2016-17	21	55	11	2	89
2017-18	19	66	10	10	105
2018-19 (upto 31.12.2018)	13	48	5	9	75
Total	62	226	59	26	373

- (b) The Government has conducted inquiry and taken necessary action on death of wild elephants in every incident. FIR's are also lodged with local police for taking necessary legal action.
- (c) to (f) Yes Madam, human casualties, crop and house damages are reported from various states due to elephant attack. The number of human killed by the wild elephant and compensation paid for the loss of life and property during the last three years, State-wise, is given in **Annexure I, II and III** respectively.

The Government has taken following steps to minimize the impacts of human wildlife conflict including human elephant conflict.

- (i) Financial and technical assistance is provided to elephant range states under the Centrally Sponsored Schemes 'Project Elephant' for protection and conservation of elephants in the country.
- (ii) All the elephant states have been directed to implement the Guidelines for Management of Human Elephant Conflict issued by the Ministry on 6.10.2017.
- (iii) The Ministry has issued guidelines in context of human-wildlife conflict to the Chief Wildlife Wardens of all the State Governments/Union Territory Administrations dated 24th December, 2014 and 1st June, 2015.
- (iv) The Ministry has notified enhancement of ex-gratia rates related wildlife depredation vide letter No. 14-2/2011 WL-I (part) dated 9th February, 2018.
- (v) The Ministry, with financial assistance from Ad-hoc Compensatory Afforestation Fund Management and Planning Authority (CAMPA), has formulated a scheme to provide assistance to the States for 'Augmentation of Fodder and Water in Protected Areas/Forest Areas', aimed at improving habitat in the areas by making provision for augmenting grass, fodder and water to the wild herbivores. So as to check the loss caused to by wild animals.
- (vi) Wildlife Institute of India in consultation with the Ministry of Environment Forest & Climate Change, National Highway Authority, National Tiger Conservation Authority and World Bank Group has published a document namely 'Eco-friendly Measures to Mitigate Impacts of Linear Infrastructure' to assist the project agencies of linear infrastructure in designing the linear infrastructure in a manner which will reduce human-animal conflicts in the areas where these linear infrastructures are passing through Protected Areas and other wildlife areas.
- (vii) Construction/erecting of physical barriers, such as barbed wire fence, solar powered electric fence, bio-fencing using cactus, boundary wall etc. to prevent entry of wild animals into crop field.
- (viii) The Ministry has approved a pilot project on the immune-contraception for controlling the population of wild animals responsible for damage and destruction of crops, namely; elephant, wild boar, monkey, and nilgai.
- (ix) The Ministry has also initiated a human wildlife conflict mitigation project in collaboration with the GIZ.
- (x) Works like creation of water sources, plantation of fruiting trees, pasture development, fire protection etc. are being done to enrich elephant habitat so that elephants can be retained in their habitat.

- (xi) Forest Department is engaging local communities as animal trackers to know the movement of elephants and also to caution local people to avoid man-animal conflict and to prevent damage or loss of human life and elephants.
- (xii) The latest technologies such as WhatsApp, SMS based alert system, use of Radio Collaring of elephant etc. are used to minimise elephant depredation.

ANNEXURE -I

ANNEXURE REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PART (c) to (f) OF THE LOK SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 1083 RAISED BY SHRI GAJANAN KIRTIKAR, SHRI S.R. VIJAYAKUMAR, SHRI S. RAJENDRAN, KUNWAR HARIBANSH SINGH, SHRI T. RADHAKRISHNAN AND SHRI SUDHEER GUPTA REGARDING 'DEATH OF ELEPHANTS' DUE FOR REPLY ON 08.02.2019.

Number of Human Deaths caused by elephant from 2015-16 to 2018-2019

S.No.	State	2015-16	2016-17	2017-18	2018-19 (Upto 31.12.2018)
1	Andhra Pradesh	0	2	6	6
2	Arunachal Pradesh	1	NR	NR	NR
3	Assam	31	91	72	86
4	Chhattisgarh	53	74	74	NR
5	Jharkhand	66	59	84	NR
6	Karnataka	47	49	22	NR
7	Kerala	6	33	15	15
8	Maharashtra	1	0	0	1
9	Meghalaya	6	5	7	NR
10	Nagaland	1	1	0	1
11	Odisha	89	66	105	45
12	Tamil Nadu	49	43	49	28
13	Tripura	0	2	0	NR
14	Uttar Pradesh	0	3	1	NR
15	Uttarakhand	7	4	NR	NR
16	West Bengal	112	84	66	45
Total		469	516	501	227

ANNEXURE -II

ANNEXURE REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PART (c) to (f) OF THE LOK SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 1083 RAISED BY SHRI GAJANAN KIRTIKAR, SHRI S.R. VIJAYAKUMAR, SHRI S. RAJENDRAN, KUNWAR HARIBANSH SINGH, SHRI T. RADHAKRISHNAN AND SHRI SUDHEER GUPTA REGARDING 'DEATH OF ELEPHANTS' DUE FOR REPLY ON 08.02.2019.

Amount of compensation paid for loss of life from 2015-16 to 2018-19

S.No.	State	2015-16	2016-17	2017-18	Rs. In Lakhs
					2018-19 (upto 31.12.2018)
1	Andhra Pradesh	0	10	30	25
2	Arunachal Pradesh	1	NR	NR	NR
3	Assam	0	167.4	452.4	0
4	Chhattisgarh	178	288.25	292.25	NR
5	Jharkhand	184.9	110.179	223.95	NR
6	Karnataka	228	235	110	NR
7	Kerala	48.87	97.75	77.56	73.13
8	Maharashtra	8	0	0	NR
9	Meghalaya	30	12	0	NR
10	Nagaland	1	0	0	1
11	Odisha	203.21	251.33	259.8	294.45
12	Tamil Nadu	196.75	145.75	194.5	156
13	Tripura	2	NR	NR	NR
14	Uttar Pradesh	0	15	5	NR
15	Uttarakhand	23.03	9.3	NR	NR
16	West Bengal	228	152.34	144.44	NR
Total		1332.76	1494.299	1789.9	549.58

ANNEXURE -III

ANNEXURE REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PART (c) to (f) OF THE LOK SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 1083 RAISED BY SHRI GAJANAN KIRTIKAR, SHRI S.R. VIJAYAKUMAR, SHRI S. RAJENDRAN, KUNWAR HARIBANSH SINGH, SHRI T. RADHAKRISHNAN AND SHRI SUDHEER GUPTA REGARDING 'DEATH OF ELEPHANTS' DUE FOR REPLY ON 08.02.2019.

Amount of compensation paid for loss crop/property damage from 2015-16 to 2018-19

Rs. In Lakhs					
S.No.	State	2015-16	2016-17	2017-18	2018-19 (upto 31.12.2018)
1	Andhra Pradesh	78.98	53.081	24.39	54.1988
2	Arunachal Pradesh	20.9	NR	NR	NR
3	Assam	0	222	103.49	0
4	Chhattisgarh	963.2608	1425.86	1279.47	NR
5	Jharkhand	485.95	428.92	412.01	NR
6	Karnataka	705.5	709.65	1370	NR
7	Kerala	281.051	305.82	395.46	177.656
8	Maharashtra	155.22	67.99	65.52	53.03
9	Meghalaya	110.52	36.63	47.45	NR
10	Nagaland	9.555	8.75	33.33	5.51
11	Odisha	1196.34	1240.22	1272.38	445.82
12	Tamil Nadu	250.76	237.01	186.408	183.045
13	Tripura	0.914	0	0	NR
14	Uttar Pradesh	0	10.98	11.55	NR
15	Uttarakhand	51.34	10.71	NR	NR
16	West Bengal	477.78	806.11	969.93	NR
Total		4788.071	5563.731	6171.388	919.2598