

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE

**LOK SABHA**  
**UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 4358**  
TO BE ANSWERED ON 19.07.2019

**Elephant Menace**

4358. SHRI NABA KUMAR SARANIA:  
SHRI SANJAY SADASHIV RAO MANDLIK:

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

- (a) whether the wildlife elephants have wrecked havoc for the people in Assam, Maharashtra and Karnataka, as they have ruined most of the villages and if so, the details thereof;
- (b) the number of the farming areas, houses destroyed and persons killed by the wild elephants and bisons during the last three years in the said States;
- (c) whether the Government has provided any compensation to the people whose houses have been destroyed and if so, the details thereof;
- (d) whether any foreign assistance has been received to solve the problems created by elephants in Assam and if so, the details thereof; and
- (e) whether the Government has taken any necessary steps in this regard and if so, the details thereof?

**ANSWER**

**MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE**

**(SHRI BABUL SUPRIYO)**

- (a) There are reports of some incidences of human-elephant conflicts in some parts of the states.
- (b) The details of farming areas, houses destroyed and persons killed by wild elephants and bisons during the last three years in the state of Assam, Maharashtra and Karnataka is given in **Annexure**.
- (c) Yes sir. The details of the compensation provided by the Government to the people whose houses have been destroyed is given below:

Rs. In Lakhs

Year	STATE		
	Assam	Maharashtra	Karnataka
2016-17	222	103.49	709.65
2017-18	103.49	65.52	1370
2018-19	0	857.78	818.02

- (d) No sir.
- (e) The Government has taken following steps under the Centrally Sponsored Scheme 'Project Elephant' to mitigate elephant menace:
- i. Financial and technical assistance is provided to elephant range states under the Centrally Sponsored Schemes 'Project Elephant', to protect elephants, their habitat and corridors, to address issues of man-elephant conflict and welfare of captive elephants.
  - ii. Notification of the critical elephant habitats as "Elephant Reserves" for better management of wild elephants.
  - iii. Construction/erecting of physical barriers, such as barbed wire fence, solar powered electric fence, bio-fencing using cactus, bee-hive fencing, elephant proof trenches, boundary wall etc. to prevent entry of wild animals into crop field.
  - iv. 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.
  - v. Works like creation of water sources, plantation of fruiting trees, pasture development, fire protection etc. are being done to enrich elephant habitat. The Ministry is implementing a scheme from the Compensatory Afforestation Funds to Augment Fodder and water in Protected Areas for increasing the availability of forage and water for herbivores within Protected areas so that animal can be retained within their habitats.
  - vi. Regular and extensive patrolling of elephant areas by frontline field staff of the State Forest Departments is done so that elephants can be retained in their habitat.
  - vii. To reduce man-elephant conflict and to avoid retaliatory killing of elephants, compensation is provided to local communities for loss of their property and life caused by wild elephants.
  - viii. 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 the elephant to their natural habitat.
  - ix. 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.

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**ANNEXURE**

**ANNEXURE REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PART (b) OF THE LOK SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 4358 RAISED BY SHRI NABA KUMAR SARANIA AND SHRI SANJAY SADASHIV RAO MANDLIK REGARDING 'ELEPHANT MENACE' DUE FOR REPLY ON 19.07.2019.**

**Details of farming areas, houses destroyed and persons killed by wild elephants and bisons during the last three years in the state of Assam, Maharashtra and Karnataka**

Year	ASSAM		
	Farming areas destroyed	Nos. of Houses destroyed	Persons killed
2016-17	767.26 Ha.	1752 Nos.	136
2017-18	313.73 Ha.	1021 Nos.	83
2018-19	754.89 Ha.	2034 Nos.	86

Year	Maharashtra	
	Nos. of cases of house and farming areas destroyed	Persons killed
2016-17	4321 Nos.	2
2017-18	4052 Nos.	0
2018-19	4869 Nos.	1

Year	Karnataka		
	Nos. of cases of crop damage	Nos. of cases of property loss	Persons killed
2016-17	18985 Nos.	81 Nos.	38
2017-18	27,525 Nos.	159 Nos.	23
2018-19	19,913 Nos.	126 Nos.	13