

Hence, I urge upon the Central Government to remove this handicap from amongst the student community so that a level-playing field is created for all. Therefore, I request the Union Government to instruct the UPSC to hold the Civil Services Examination in all the languages of our country, including Tamil.

**Demand to give adequate compensation for loss of life and crops
caused by intrusion of elephants and wild animals in fields**

SHRI A.K. SELVARAJ (Tamil Nadu): Sir, wild animals, particularly, elephants invade very often into villages and cultivated lands adjoining the Western Ghats.

Elephants moving away as far as 15 kilometres deep into villages are common in Coimbatore, the Nilgiris, Erode, Trippur and the Southern districts of Tamil Nadu. Elephants freely roam into the villages and cause deaths by trampling and damaging the standing crops.

This is very severe in the traditional tribal settlements along the forest boundaries and inside the forests also. The Forest Department is erecting solar fences and trenches to prevent the elephants. These methods are found to be ineffective because the elephants remove the fencing poles without touching the wires.

These animals even level the trenches using their legs and tusks. To prevent this, trenches should be made wide and deep.

Also, the Government should periodically maintain the trench and the fence. The Government of Tamil Nadu gives a compensation of ₹ 3 lakhs in case of a death caused by animals. In other States, it is even less. This compensation is insufficient considering the long term livelihood of the family.

The compensation for crop damage per acre is ₹ 25,000 only. This is little and unrealistic.

I request the Central Government to immediately enhance and pay the compensation to the State Governments for human deaths and also for crop damages due to intrusion of elephants/wild animals.

I request the Government to find a permanent solution to this problem.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: The House stands adjourned to meet on Tuesday, the 12th August, 2014 at 11.00 a.m.

*The House then adjourned at twenty-two minutes past
nine of the clock till eleven of the clock on
Tuesday, the 12th August, 2014.*