

of the previous financial year, if any, and overall performance. Central fund released to Karnataka State during the last three financial years and current FY 2018-19 is given as under:

Financial year	Central Release (₹ in crore)
2015-16	991.55
2016-17	2258.64
2017-18	2964.48
2018-19 *	2805.35

*as on 03.01.2019.

The release of Central funds to Karnataka has been rising in the last three financial years. Fund release to States/UTs is a continuous process and Central Government is committed in making funds available keeping in view the demand for work.

Death of wild animals in rail and road accidents

*267. DR. T. SUBBARAMI REDDY: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE be pleased to state:

- (a) the number of death of wild animals in road and rail accidents in the country during the last three years;
- (b) whether recently some lions in Gujarat were killed by a speeding train;
- (c) if so, the details thereof;
- (d) whether any enquiry has been ordered to find out lapses on the part of forest officials or Railways for train not slowing down in the vulnerable areas;
- (e) if so, the details thereof; and
- (f) details of measures taken in the past and proposed to be taken to avoid death of wild animals in accidents?

THE MINISTER OF ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE (DR. HARSH VARDHAN): (a) The number of death of wild animals in road and rail accidents in the country are not collated by the Ministry. However, details collected from the States the number of death of elephants, lion and tigers in road/rail accidents in the country as available with the Ministry during the last three years are given in the Statement-I, III respectively (*See below*).

(b) and (c) Yes, Sir. As informed by the State Government of Gujarat, three lions including two male and one female were killed in rail accident on railways track near Borala village of Savarkundla Taluka of Amreli District on 17th December, 2018.

(d) and (e) Enquiry has been conducted by the State Government. Concerned trackers, looking after the area where accident took place has been removed from the contract service. Concerned Forester and Beat Guard have been issued show cause notice.

(f) The important measures taken by the Government to avoid death of wild animals in accidents are as follows:-

- (i) Wildlife Institute of India in consultation with the Ministry of Environment, Forest and 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.
- (ii) A general advisory has been issued jointly by Ministry of Railways (MoRs) and Ministry of Environment and Forests (MoEF) on 30th March, 2010 to the General Managers of NF, East Cost and Southern Railways with a request to implement the suggested measures.
- (iii) The Ministry *vide* the D.O. letter of DGF&SS dated 28th December, 2016 has requested all the CWLW of the PE States to implement the precautionary measures to minimize death of elephant due to train accidents.
- (iv) Protected Areas, *viz.*, National Parks, Sanctuaries, Conservation Reserves and Community Reserves covering important wildlife habitats have been created all over the country under the provisions of Wild Life (Protection) Act, 1972 to conserve wild animals and their habitats. Improvement of Protected Areas (PAs), including Elephant Reserves and Corridors is carried out regularly so that enough food and shelter is available for wild animals.
- (v) Regular and extensive patrolling by frontline field staff of the State Forest Departments is done so that wild animals can be retained in their habitat.
- (vi) SOP has been issued to manage tigers dispersing out in human dominated landscapes to safeguard humans as well as tigers besides reducing exposure of tigers to linear infrastructure.
- (vii) The Social Forestry Division, Amreli, Gujarat has erected 80.80 km. chain link fencing on both side of railway track passing through lion movement area.
- (viii) Adequate numbers of trackers has been deployed for day-night patrolling to watch lion movement around railway track.

Statement-I*Details of elephant casualties in train accidents during the last three years*

Sl. No.	State	2015-16	2016-17	2017-18
1.	Assam	3	10	14
2.	West Bengal	5	3	2
3.	Tamil Nadu	0	2	0
4.	Jharkhand	0	2	0
5.	Kerala	0	2	0
6.	Odisha	1	0	2
7.	Tripura	0	0	0
8.	Uttarakhand	0	2	NR
9.	Uttar Pradesh	0	0	0
10.	Karnataka	0	0	1
TOTAL		9	21	19

Statement-II*Details of deaths of lions in road and rail accidents during last three years*

Sl. No.	Year	By Road Accidents	By Rail Accidents	Total
1.	2016	0	0	0
2.	2017	1	1	2
3.	2018	3	0	3
TOTAL		4	1	5

Statement-III*Details of tiger deaths in road and train accidents during the last three years*

Year	Road	Train	Total
2016	2	3	5
2017	1	2	3
2018	0	3	3
TOTAL	3	8	11