

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE
DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE

RAJYA SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO - 2285
ANSWERED ON 05/08/2022

DAMAGE OF CROPS DUE TO ATTACK OF STRAY AND WILD ANIMALS

2285. SHRI SANDOSH KUMAR P

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE be pleased to state:-

- (a) whether Government is aware of the crop damage and loss of human life due to the attack of stray and wild animals;
- (b) if so, the specific policies and interventions that are already operational to save the farmers' life and livelihood from the attack of stray and wild animals; and
- (c) whether there is any model that can be replicated across the country?

ANSWER

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE

(SHRI NARENDRA SINGH TOMAR)

(a) to (c) To check damage of crops due to attack of stray and wild animals, Ministry of Environment Forest & Climate Change (MoEF&CC) provides financial support to States / UTs through its Centrally Sponsored Schemes (CSS) for carrying out various activities for habitat improvement. These include restoration of natural water bodies, creation of artificial ponds, waterholes, augmenting food/fodder sources at various places within Protected Areas, construction/erecting of physical barriers such as solar powered electric fence, bio-fencing using cactus, boundary wall etc. to prevent the entry of wild animals into crop field. It also includes a component for payment of ex - gratia in case of loss of human life and damage to crops.

Ministry of Agriculture and Farmers Welfare, through the Revamped Operational Guidelines of Pradhan Mantri Fasal Bima Yojana (PMFBY) effective from Kharif 2020, has given liberty to states to consider providing add-on coverage for crop loss due to attack by notified wild animals wherever the risk is perceived to be substantial and identifiable.

The state governments also take various interventions to control damage of crops by stray and wild animals such as, financial assistance to Goshalas to manage stray cattle, radio collaring of the wild elephants, digging elephant trenches, erecting barricades along railway tracks, etc. The state governments also make provision to compensate farmers for the crop losses as per extant law of the respective states.
