

Q.No. 611 Question was cancelled.

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE

RAJYASABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 612
TO BE ANSWERED ON 07.12.2023

Human-wildlife encounters

612. SMT. JEBI MATHER HISHAM:

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

- (a) whether Government has compiled data on human-wildlife encounters taking place across the country, if so, the details thereof over the last five years, State/UT-wise;
- (b) the compensation made for the high loss of livestock, crops, and human life due to wildlife encounters, the details thereof over the last five years, State/UT-wise; and
- (c) whether Government is aware that the growing wildlife population has furthered the risk of attacks on livestock and humans thus decreasing informal players' reliance on forest resources, if so, the measures proposed to be taken in this regard?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE
(SHRI ASHWINI KUMAR CHOUBEY)

- (a) Protection and Management of wildlife is the primarily responsibility of the concerned State/UT Governments. As per available information with Ministry, the details of human deaths due to tiger and elephant attacks as reported by States are at **Annexure-I** and **Annexure-II**.
- (b) The States/Union Territories make ex-gratia payments for loss of livestock, crops and human life including injuries due to human-wildlife conflicts as per the norms which vary from State to State. The details of amount paid as ex-gratia in such cases are not collated at the level of the Ministry.
- (c) Incidences of wild animal attacks have been reported from various parts of the country due to several reasons which *inter alia* include degradation of the habitat, depletion of the natural prey base increase in population of wild animals due to sustained protection efforts, changing crop patterns etc. The important steps taken by Government for protection of wildlife and management of human-wildlife conflict are as follows:

- i. The Ministry has issued advisory on 06.02.2021 to all States/UTs to deal with human wildlife conflict situations.
- ii. The Ministry has issued Guidelines to States/UTs on 3rd June, 2022 on managing Human Wildlife conflict including damage to crops.
- iii. The Ministry has released species specific guidelines on 21.03.2023 for mitigation of Human -Elephant, -Gaur, -Leopard, -Snake, -Crocodile, -Rhesus Macaque, -Wild Pig, -Bear, -Blue Bull and -Blackbuck Conflict as well as Guidelines for cross cutting issues such as cooperation between the forest and media sector in India; occupational health and safety in the context of human-wildlife conflict mitigation; crowd management in human-wildlife conflict related situations and addressing health emergencies and potential health risks arising out of human-wildlife conflict situations.
- iv. The Wild Life (Protection) Act, 1972 provides regulatory functions for dealing with human wildlife conflict situations.
- v. A network of Protected Areas namely viz., National Parks, Sanctuaries, Conservation Reserves and Community Reserves covering important wildlife habitats have been created all over the country under the provisions of the Wild Life (Protection) Act, 1972 to conserve wild animals and their habitats.
- vi. The Central Government provides financial assistance to State/Union Territory Governments under the Centrally Sponsored Schemes 'Development of Wildlife Habitats, 'Project Tiger' and 'Project Elephant' for management of wildlife and its habitat in the country.
- vii. The activities supported under the scheme include construction/erection of physical barriers such as barbed wire fence, solar powered electric fence, bio-fencing using cactus, boundary walls etc. to prevent the entry of wild animals into crop fields.

Annexure-I

Annexure referred to in reply to part (a) of the Rajya Sabha Unstarred Question No. 612 due for reply on 07.12. 2023 regarding human-wildlife encounters.

The details of human deaths due to tiger attack, as reported by States

S. No.	State	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022
1.	Assam	1	0	0	0	0
2.	Bihar	0	0	1	4	0
3.	Karnataka	1	4	0	1	1
4.	Kerala	0	0	2	0	0
5.	Madhy Pradesh	2	1	11	2	2
6.	Maharashtra	2	26	25	32	85
7.	Orissa	2	0	0	0	0
8.	Rajasthan	2	5	0	0	0
9.	Tamil Nadu	0	0	1	3	0
10.	Telangana	0	0	2	0	0
11.	Uttar Pradesh	5	8	4	11	11
12.	Uttarakhand	1	2	0	1	3
13.	West Bengal	15	3	5	5	1
Total		31	49	51	59	103

Annexure-II

Annexure referred to in reply to part (a) of the Rajya Sabha Unstarred Question No. 612 due for reply on 07.12. 2023 regarding human-wildlife encounters.

Human casualties due to elephant attack

S. No.	State	2018-19	2019-20	2020-21	2021-22	2022-23
1	Andhra Pradesh	7	4	6	NR	5
2	Arunachal Pradesh	0	0	0	2	0
3	Assam	84	75	91	63	80
4	Chhattisgarh	61	77	42	64	69
5	Jharkhand	87	84	74	133	96
6	Karnataka	12	30	26	27	29
7	Kerala	27	12	20	25	22
8	Maharashtra	1	1	NR	0	2
9	Meghalaya	3	4	6	3	3
10	Nagaland	1	0	0	0	1
11	Odisha	72	117	93	112	148
12	Tamil Nadu	47	58	57	37	43
13	Tripura	NR	2	1	2	2
14	Uttar Pradesh	0	6	1	0	4
15	Uttarakhand	3	NR	NR	NR	4
16	West Bengal	52	116	47	77	97
Total		457	586	464	545	605

*NR- Information not received from State