GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE

RAJYA SABHA
STARRED QUESTION NO. 268
TO BE ANSWERED ON 19.12.2024

Steps taken to prevent human-animal conflict

* 268.   SHRI MUKUL BALKRISHNA WASNIK:

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

(a)   the details of the casualties due to human-animal conflict in the last three years, state wise and year wise;
(b)   whether Government has taken any steps, including use of Artificial Intelligence (AI) in preventing human-animal conflict; and
(c)   if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor?

<u>ANSWER</u>

MINISTER   FOR ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE
(SHRI BHUPENDER YADAV)

(a) to (c)   A statement is laid on the table of the House

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STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PARTS (a) TO (c) OF THE RAJYA SABHA STARRED QUESTION NO. *268 REGARDING "STEPS TAKEN TO PREVENT HUMAN-ANIMAL CONFLICT" BY SHRI MUKUL BALKRISHNA WASNIK FOR REPLY ON 19.12.2024.

(a)   The details of the human deaths over the last three years due to attacks by elephants and tigers as reported by States are providedat **Annexure-I** and **Annexure-II** respectively.The number of tiger and elephant deaths during the last three years as reported by States are at **Annexure-III**, **Annexure-IV, Annexure-V, Annexure-VI and Annexure-VII**.

(b) and (c)   The important steps taken by Government for preventing human-animal conflict are as follows:

     i.   A network of Protected Areas namely viz., National Park, Sanctuaries, Conservation Reserves and Community Reserves covering important wildlife habitat have been created all over the country under the provisions of the Wild Life (Protection) Act, 1972 to conserve wild animals and their habitats.

     ii.   Financial assistance is provided by the Ministry to the States/UTs under the Centrally Sponsored schemes – 'Development of Wildlife Habitats', 'Project Tiger and Elephant' for various interventions including animal proof fencing, anti-depredation squads, rapid response teams, ex-gratia relief, technology based animal tracking etc.

     iii.   An advisory on dealing with human-wildlife conflict has been issued by the Ministry in February 2021. The Advisory recommends coordinated interdepartmental action, identification of conflict hot spots, adherence to Standard Operating Procedures, establishment of rapid response teams, formation of State and District level committees to review the quantum of ex-gratia relief, and issuing guidance/instructions for expedited payments etc.

     iv.   The Ministry has also issued Guidelines to States/UTs during June, 2022 on managing Human Wildlife conflict including damage to crops.

     v.   Species specific guidelines have been issued for mitigation of conflicts arising from various wild animals namely Elephant, Gaur, Leopard, Snake, Crocodile, Rhesus Macaque, Wild Pig, Bear, Blue Bull and Blackbuck during March 2023.

     vi.   Guidelines for cross cutting issues such as cooperation between the forest and media sector; 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 have been issuedduring March 2023.

     vii.   Advance technology like radio collaring, alert system, installation of digital boards to warn/inform the public in forest area and monitoring of wildlife movement through drones are also used in human wildlife

conflict mitigation.

viii. The local communities are involved in conservation measures through eco-development activities, which help the forest departments in protection of wildlife.

ix. The Ministry provides support to State Governments to organize awareness generation, training and capacity building programmes on human-wildlife conflict.

x. Advanced technologieslike artificial intelligence based surveillance, Elephant Intrusion Detection Systemare used for detecting elephant movement along railway tracks.

xi. The Wild Life (Protection) Act, 1972 provides regulatory functions for dealing with human wildlife conflict situations.

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Annexure referred to in reply to part (a) of the Rajya Sabha Starred Question No. *268 due for reply on 19.12.2024 regarding steps taken to prevent human-animal conflict.

Details of human deaths due to man- elephant conflict

S. No.	State	2021-22	2022-23	2023-24
1	Andhra Pradesh	NR	5	6
2	Arunachal Pradesh	2	0	0
3	Assam	63	80	74
4	Chhattisgarh	64	69	51
5	Jharkhand	133	96	87
6	Karnataka	27	29	48
7	Kerala	35	27	22
8	Maharashtra	0	2	5
9	Meghalaya	3	3	7
10	Nagaland	2	1	1
11	Odisha	112	148	154
12	Tamil Nadu	37	43	61
13	Tripura	2	2	1
14	Uttar Pradesh	0	4	4
15	Uttarakhand	NR	4	8
16	West Bengal	77	97	99
Total		557	610	628

*NR- Information not received from State

Annexure referred to in reply to part (a) of the Rajya Sabha Starred Question No. *268 due for reply on 19.12.2024 regarding steps taken to prevent human-animal conflict.

Details of human deaths due to man- tiger conflict

S. No.	State	2021	2022	2023	2024 (upto 30-06-2024)
1	Bihar	4	9	-	1
2	Chhattisgarh	0	0	3	0
3	Karnataka	1	1	8	1
4	Madhya Pradesh	2	3	10	6
5	Maharashtra	32	82	35	20
6	Tamil Nadu	3	0	1	0
7	Uttar Pradesh	11	11	25	10
8	Uttarakhand	1	3	-	6
9	West Bengal	5	1	-	-
	TOTAL	**59**	**110**	**82**	**44**

Annexure referred to in reply to part (a) of the Rajya Sabha Starred Question No. *268 due for reply on 19.12.2024 regarding steps taken to prevent human-animal conflict.

Details of tiger deaths reported by States due to poaching, seizure and unnatural causes

Year	Poaching	Seizure	Unnatural causes	Total
2021	8	1	11	20
2022	12	2	15	29
2023	12	4	9	25
2024 (As on 20.11.2024)	1	0	0	01
Total	**33**	**7**	**35**	**75**

Annexure referred to in reply to part (a) of the Rajya Sabha Starred Question No. *268 due for reply on 19.12.2024 regarding steps taken to prevent human-animal conflict.

Elephant deaths due to train accidents

S. No.	State	2021-22	2022-23	2023-24
1	Assam	8	7	2
2	West Bengal	0	1	4
3	Tamil Nadu	3	0	0
4	Jharkhand	0	1	1
5	Kerala	0	2	0
6	Odisha	3	3	5
7	Tripura	0	0	1
8	Uttarakhand	NR	1	4
9	Uttar Pradesh	0	0	0
10	Karnataka	1	0	0
	Total	15	15	17

*NR-Information not received from State.

Annexure referred to in reply to part (a) of the Rajya Sabha Starred Question No. *268 due for reply on 19.12.2024 regarding steps taken to prevent human-animal conflict.

Elephant Deaths due to Electrocution

S. No.	State	2021-22	2022-23	2023-24
1	Andhra Pradesh	NR	5	6
2	Arunachal Pradesh	NR	1	0
3	Assam	12	8	11
4	Chhattisgarh	4	9	10
5	Jharkhand	4	6	10
6	Karnataka	7	15	13
7	Kerala	6	7	10
8	Maharashtra	0	0	2
9	Meghalaya	1	1	1
10	Nagaland	1	0	1
11	Odisha	13	26	15
12	Tamil Nadu	5	14	6
13	Uttar Pradesh	2	0	1
14	Uttarakhand	NR	3	1
15	West Bengal	2	5	7
	Total	**57**	**100**	**94**

*NR-Information not received from State.

Annexure referred to in reply to part (a) of the Rajya Sabha Starred Question No. *268 due for reply on 19.12.2024 regarding steps taken to prevent human-animal conflict.

Elephant Deaths due to poaching

S. No	State	2021-22	2022-23	2023-24
1	Assam	0	2	1
2	Meghalaya	0	3	0
3	Odisha	1	8	3
4	Tamil Nadu	3	1	4
5	West Bengal	0	0	1
	Total	**4**	**14**	**9**

*NR-Information not received from State.

Annexure referred to in reply to part (a) of the Rajya Sabha Starred Question No. *268 due for reply on 19.12.2024 regarding steps taken to prevent human-animal conflict.

Elephant Deaths due to poisoning

S. No.	State	2021-22	2022-23	2023-24
1	**Assam**	6	2	1
2	**Chhattisgarh**	0	1	0
3	**West Bengal**	0	1	0
Total		**6**	**4**	**1**

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