

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE

LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 3508
TO BE ANSWERED ON 11.08.2025

Status of Project Elephant

3508. SHRI VISHWESHWAR HEGDE KAGERI:
SHRI MANOJ TIWARI:
SHRI MAHENDRA SINGH SOLANKY:
DR. HEMANT VISHNU SAVARA:
SHRI CAPTAIN BRIJESH CHOWTA:
SHRI BASAVARAJ BOMMAI:
SHRI KHAGEN MURMU:
SMT. ROOPKUMARI CHOUDHARY:
SHRI NABA CHARAN MAJHI:

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

- (a) the current status of Project Elephant along with the steps taken to address human-elephant conflict under this Project and the outcome achieved, State-wise including Chhattisgarh and Dakshina Kannada district;
- (b) whether there have been any coordinated efforts with other ministries such as the Ministry of Railways, Ministry of Power or Ministry of Road Transport and Highways to reduce human-wildlife conflict, if so, the details thereof along with outcome of said efforts, State-wise including said places;
- (c) whether Project Elephant has been planned to cover parts of Madhya Pradesh, including regions adjacent to Dewas–Shajapur, if so, the details thereof;
- (d) whether any elephant movement, habitat corridor mapping, or conflict mitigation has been identified in or near forested areas of the region, if so, the details thereof;
- (e) whether the Government has coordinated with Madhya Pradesh Forest Department to create elephant-sensitive landscapes near Dewas-Shajapur districts; and
- (f) if so, the details thereof and if not, whether the Government will consider expanding Project Elephant and habitat connectivity programme to Dewas–Shajapur?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE
(SHRI KIRTI VARDHAN SINGH)

- (a) to (f) The Ministry is providing financial and technical assistance to State Governments/UTs Administrations under the Centrally Sponsored Scheme Project Tiger & Elephant (CSS-PT&E) for protection of elephants, their habitat and corridors, to address issues of human-elephant conflict and welfare of captive

elephants in the country. Financial assistance is provided under the scheme as per the Annual Plan of Operations submitted by the State Governments/UTs Administration for management of wildlife and its habitat in the country. The scheme is implemented in all elephant range states including the State of Chhattisgarh and Madhya Pradesh.

The Ministry of Environment, Forest & Climate Change, in coordination with the Ministry of Railways, has taken several measures to prevent elephant deaths on railway tracks including conducting inter-ministerial meetings. Speed restrictions in elephant habitats, pilot projects like seismic sensor-based elephant detection, construction of underpasses, ramps, fencing, have been undertaken at various locations.

Further, the Wildlife Institute of India, Dehradun in consultation with the Ministry of Environment Forest, and Climate Change and other stakeholders has published a document namely 'Eco-friendly Measures to Mitigate Impacts of Linear Infrastructure' to assist project agencies in designing linear infrastructure, including railway lines, in a manner that reduces human-animal conflict.

A comprehensive report titled "Suggested Measures to Mitigate Elephant & Other Wildlife Train Collisions on Vulnerable Railway Stretches in India" has been prepared after field surveys across 127 identified railway stretches spanning a total of 3,452.4 km. Based on the intensity of wildlife movement, 77 railway stretches covering 1,965.2 km across 14 States have been prioritized for mitigation along with site-specific interventions. The report containing the details of the identified stretches and the mitigation measures has been also shared with the State Governments and the Ministry of Railways.
