

**MOST IMMEDIATE  
CALLING ATTENTION**

**Sub:- Reply to Calling Attention Notice tabled by Shri Digambar Kamat (Hon'ble Leader of Opposition), Vijay Sardessai, Jayesh Salgaonkar, Vinoda Palienkar, Rohan Khaunte, Ramkrishna Dhavalikar, Aleixo Reginaldo Laurengo & Pravin Zantye, MLAs admitted for answer on 05.02.2020.**

<b>QUESTION CALLING ATTENTION</b>	<b>ANSWER</b>
<p>“Fear and anxiety in the minds of the people of Goa with regard to the recent case of deaths of tigers in the state and the negligence of the government in safeguarding the lives of these animals and residents of the area by tackling the issue of human-wildlife conflict”</p>	<p>There should not be any fear and anxiety in the minds of people. The Government of Goa is fully committed to protect its wild animals as well as the people in dealing with Human - Wildlife Conflict.</p> <p>There are 6 Wildlife Sanctuaries and 1 National Park spread through an area of 745 sq. km. for conservation and management of wildlife in the State.</p> <p>There are many villages in and around the wildlife sanctuaries. Therefore, the human-wild animal conflict is a normal phenomenon. However, Forest Department is making all possible efforts to minimize the conflicts. Fruit bearing plants and grass plots are being created and more and more water holes are being created in the forests / wildlife sanctuaries for the wild animals. The loss of cattle and crop damage by wild animals is being compensated through a compensation scheme.</p> <p>There has been increase in the movement of tiger in the forests of Goa. Recently, one tigress and three cubs were found dead near Golauli village adjoining Madhei Wildlife Sanctuary. It is suspected case of revenge killing through poisoning as tigers had killed few cattle of villagers. Five suspects were arrested, who confessed of killing the tigers through poisoning. The samples of viscera and tissues have been collected and sent to forensic lab for verification. Missing nails / claws of one of the tigers, which were found missing have been recovered. The offence case is under investigation.</p> <p>Tiger Population in Goa migrates between Goa and adjoining states of Karnataka and Maharashtra.</p>

Forest Department Officials are in touch with their counterparts in Karnataka and Maharashtra to monitor the movement of tiger and its protection.

In order to minimize the Human-Wildlife conflict, Forest Department has taken following steps on immediate priority:

1. The Department has formulated a scheme for immediate compensation to be given to the affected families for loss of human life and / or cattle within 3-4 days of the wild animal attack. The process of granting compensation has been made simpler and less time consuming.
2. Voluntary relocation of individuals/families living in and around the critical areas of wildlife sanctuaries is also being considered.
3. Monitoring of movement of wild animals has been intensified through increased patrolling and regular use of camera traps.
4. Construction of protection camp/ watch tower at strategic points inside Madei Wildlife Sanctuary is being planned.
5. Construction of Rubble Wall fencing along the boundary of Madei WLS especially in the critical areas of such vulnerable villages.
6. Creation of one more Forest Range for Mahdei Wildlife Sanctuary and 3 more beats / forest camps are planned.
7. The number of trekkers & other manpower inside Mahdei Wildlife Sanctuary and also other Wildlife Sanctuaries is being increased.
8. Villagers are being sensitized towards wildlife conservation as well as for taking suitable precautions.
9. More and more fruit bearing plants and grass plots are being created inside Wildlife Sanctuaries so as to increase the food resources to herbivores.
10. More water holes are being created inside Wildlife Sanctuaries to make available sufficient water for wild animals.