

Regarding human-animal conflict

ADV. DEAN KURIAKOSE (IDUKKI): Hon. Chairperson, Madam, the major issue about Kerala today and tomorrow is human-animal conflict. Can we imagine that within a period of 10 years, in Kerala alone, more than 1250 people have been killed due to human-animal conflict. In my constituency alone, within a period of 20 days, five people have been killed by elephant attack. Madam, who is responsible? If we are asking questions here, they will reply that the State Government is responsible for the life and protection of these people. But the State Government will reply that the Central Government has to amend the Wildlife Protection Act 1972. Yes, we have to amend the Wildlife Protection Act 1972. Sir, we have to get the permission to kill whatever animal is coming out from forest and attacking human life and farm lands.

In the foreign countries like the US, China, Russia, Canada, Australia, New Zealand, South Africa, Tanzania, Mozambique and Namibia, hunting is legal; hunting is permissible. The number of animals is higher than the carrying capacity of the forest. We have to get the permission to hunt in a season. That is all over the world, it is going on. That is a scientific method they are adopting. In the Wildlife Protection Act that is, the latest amendment Act, there is a provision of the wildlife warden having the right to give permission to kill the animals. But the State Government is not doing that. They are not at all giving the permission for the wildlife warden to kill the animal. That is going on. For protecting the life and property of people, especially the farmer community, we have to give the permission to kill the animal, whenever they are attacking the human life as well as the farm lands.