

Database on Elephant (*Elephas maximus*)  
Conservation, Human-Elephant Conflict &  
Elephant Mortality Causes

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MVSc, PhD, PGD (J&MC)



ASSOCIATION OF INDIAN ZOO AND WILDLIFE VETERINARIANS  
M-83, B.D.A. COLONY, TIBRINATH, BAREILLY - 243122, UP (INDIA)  
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## 2.2 The State of Jharkhand

**1. Elephant Population :** It was created by bisecting the State of Bihar in the year 2003. The area of the Singhbhum elephant reserve is 4499.90 sq km, covering 7 forest divisions of Singhbhum East, Singhbhum West and Saraikela Kharsawan districts. Table 1 presents wild elephant population estimates at different intervals (MoE&F, AR2010-11). The elephant population of the State can be categorized into 4 groups namely, Singhbhum West and East population, Ranchi/Gumla /Lohardaga population, Garhwa/Palamau population And Hazaribagh/ Bokaro/Giridih/Dumka population. Migration Of elephant herds from the adjacent States (districts of Midnapore and Bankura W. Bengal, Keonjhar district of Odisha) to Jharkhand via traditional transit paths in the post monsoon period is a common course. Hence, there is always fluctuation in the elephant populations in the State.

Table 1. Elephant population estimates at different intervals.

1993	1997	2002	2007	2012
550	618	772	624	688

### 2.0 H-E- Conflict Occurrences

In 2003 WPS studied that while moving from Dalma Hills in Jharkhand, to Keonjhar in Orissa elephants have to cross two canals near Dalma Wildlife Sanctuary, railway crossings, human habitation, and finally a web of iron ore mines. But miraculously it is feasible, as there are still patches of forests with sufficient seasonal food through their traditional migration routes. However, confrontation of elephants with local people due to crop raiding and property damage is likely to happen. After reviewing all available literature on the human- elephant conflicts it is found that the State of Jharkhand has Man-elephant-conflict problem in almost in its all areas. Hence, a large number of men and elephants suffer in Jharkhand.

**2.1 Crop predation and property loss:** Elephants are frequently met within the forests of Jamshedpur district and their number seems to be on the increase. Wild elephants are common in the jungles on the Dalma range in the north of the district. Heavy damage is caused mainly in rains to cultivation, young bamboo clumps and regeneration areas. In drier periods of the year they confine themselves to damp valleys

**Case Reports/ Studies:** (i). Kundhit (Jharkhand): Wild elephants have attacked the remote village of Kundhit in Jharkhand's Jaamtara District, terrifying its residents. The animals after losing their track ventured into the human settlement and damaged standing paddy crops (ANI- January 2, 2009).

(ii). On 1-4-2013 six elephants rampage in some villages of Choubepanchayat of the Chalkusha block of the district,



damaged rabi and oilseed crops. About a dozen farmers were affected and villagers demanded compensation from the forest department as well as the district administration. The villagers alleged that the local administration took no note of their complaint. Divisional Forest Officer (DFO) P Thanga Pandiyan said the elephants came from Giridh and have now taken respite near Barakar river and not harmed humans. He has also denied for any property damage caused during rampage (<http://eis4elephants.blogspot.in/2013/04/world-water-day-continued.html>). ~The Times of India April 1, 2013).

(iii). On 25<sup>th</sup> February 2014 to increase compensation for the losses caused by the elephants to public a discussion in the State Assembly was held. During the proceeding CPI(ML) MLA Binod Singh said the Government in written reply had given a total number of 71, 551 of crops, domestic animals, house and grains losses for which the government had paid compensation of a mere 703.27 lakhs that was less than Rs 1000 on average per case (News Web India 123May2, 2014).

(iv) In their 10 days continuously staying in Kajiri village district of Hazaribag a herd of 17 elephants destroyed houses, crops and stored mahua flowers and seeds (Times of India April 27, 2014).

**2.2 Human casualties:** Analysis of human death data collected from Directorate Project Elephant, Ministry of Environment and Forests, New Delhi shows a total of 1189. persons killed in the State by Elephants during the period from April 1991- March 2014. Therefore, per year average number of loss of human lives was 51.70.

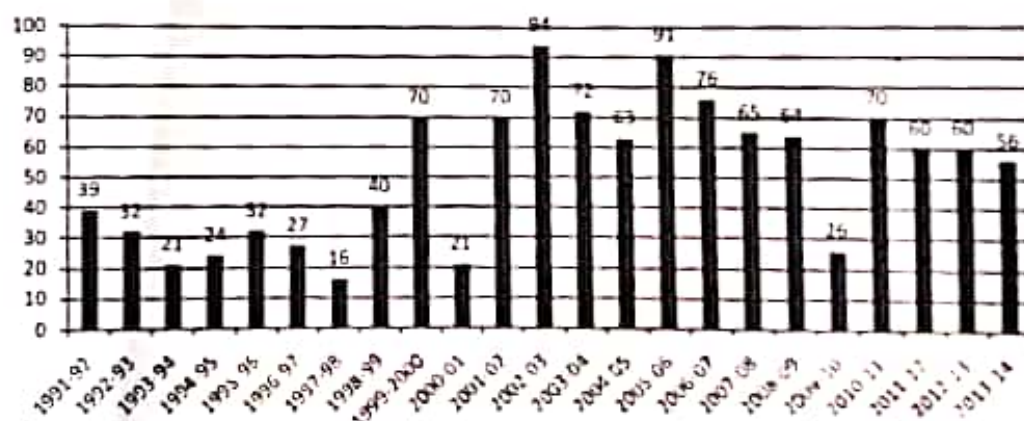


Fig. 1 : Number of persons killed every year w.e.f April 1991 to March 2014 in Jharkhand

### Case Reports/ Studies:

- (i) In Bihar, 228 people were killed by elephants in 15 forest divisions and protected areas during 1989-94 (Rajpurohit and Chauhan, 1996)
- (ii) According to a report around Ranchi in Balumath Range of Palamau district of Jharkhand, one elephant has so far killed 32 people, damaged 250 houses, and 580 crop cases have been attributed to this elephant (till July 2001)
- (iii) Conservator of Wildlife Circle Doranda, Ranchi reported that in Bundu around Ranchi, in Balumath Range of Palamau district, a herd of 13-18 elephants killed seven people during one five month period. Another herd of about 60 elephants killed 11 people in 1988 and another 12 persons in 1989 (Nigam, 2002). On investigation, it was known that this was a domestic elephant that had been abandoned. The latest report of killing of two people and leaving over a dozen injured by the elephants in Bundu was reported by ANI News dated 5th May, 2014
- (iv) In the last four years elephants have also wreaked havoc, killing hundreds of people (Elephant News Web Site, 2005-10-10- RANCHI, India).
- (v) What has been published in 'Thaindia News' on Saturday, May 31, 2008, the same is recounted here. A rogue tusker elephant called as Osama bin laden, had trampled to death 11 people and injured 22 between April- May 31. On its movement from Jharkhand to Purulia (WB) it had also killed six persons. Hence it was declared as rogue tusker and Chief wildlife warden Jharkhand issued the order to kill the tusker. Forest department Jharkhand mentioned to press that over 400 people have been killed in the last six years and over 700 were injured in confrontation with elephants.
- (vi) Three villagers of Sringasu village of Ramgarh district were trampled to death and one person was injured seriously by a herd of elephant (The Economic Times, 13 March, 2009)
- (vii) Webindia123 News on January 23, 2011 reported that during the current month 9 persons were fatally trampled by elephants in Ghumla district of Jharkhand. Of which 7 were killed in the first fortnight of the month in different areas of the district. Rest two killings occurred later on in Karmi village area under the limits of Dumari Police Station.
- (viii) ANI News dated 5<sup>th</sup> May 2014 reported 'wild elephants went in rampage in Bundu killing two people and leaving over a dozen injured. The herd has also destroyed several houses.
- (ix) Jharkhand Vikas Morcha leader Ganesh Mahto 45 years old while on the way to the house of his father in law was trampled to death by wild elephants incident occurred near Peradih under Tamar block in Ranchi district. At the

During the period of four years from April 2009 to March 2013 the amount of compensation paid for the crop loss and human death by the state are given below (source : PCCF/WL)

S. No.	Number	2009-10	2010-11	2011-12	2012-13
1	No. of persons killed by elephants	54	69	62	60
2	Amount paid (in Rs. Lakh) on account of ex-gratia for human deaths	53.93	52.62	67.32	91.17
3	Amount Paid (in Rs. Lakh) for crop damage etc as compensation	123.71	74.94	131.89	120.19

### 2.3 The State of Chhattisgarh



Source: Wildlife Trust of India  
Map (Not to scale): Red sign of Star showing man–elephant conflict areas (Source: Wildlife Trust of India - Adopted from Down to Earth 20-2-2014)

The Chhattisgarh was created after bisecting Madhya Pradesh in the year 2000. Historically, according to Forsyth (1889), northern Chhattisgarh used to be the home of elephants. However, they become locally extinct in the early part of the twentieth century (Krishnan, 1972).

**1.0 Elephant Population:** Elephants are migratory coming from the neighboring States, Odisha and Jharkhand. Among the migratory elephant populations certain herds have settled in the State and some have regular migratory course infesting and inhabiting for quite long duration in the northern forest divisions like Sarguja, Raipur, Jashpur, Dharmjaigarh and Korba. They are causing great damage to Agriculture crops and households, besides human casualties in the





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**1. सरकारी नौकरी (पद और कार्य) अनुभव**

(अ) प्रधान वैज्ञानिक (वन्य जीव) और अधिकारी प्रभारी कोंट वन्य जीव संरक्षण, प्रबंधन एवं रोग सर्वेक्षण, आई. सी. ए.आर.-आई.सी.आर.आई. इण्डियानगर, बरेली (उत्तर प्रदेश)।

(आ) निदेशक-राष्ट्रीय प्राणी उद्यान, पर्यावरण एवं वन मंत्रालय, नई दिल्ली।

(इ) विभागीय अध्यक्ष-महाविज्ञान विभाग, आई.सी.ए.आर.-आई.सी.आर.आई. इण्डियानगर, बरेली (उत्तर प्रदेश)।

**2. तकनीकी सदस्य और कार्य :**

(अ) तकनीकी सलाहकार (1981 से मार्च 1990) राष्ट्रीय प्राणी उद्यान, नई दिल्ली। (आ) महासचिव (1991 से 1993)-इण्डियन जू सर्वोकेटर्स एसोसिएशन। (इ) सदस्य-तकनीकी समिति एवं कार्यकारी समिति केंद्रीय विज्ञानपर प्राक्कल्प, पर्यावरण एवं वन मंत्रालय, नई दिल्ली (1998 से 1998 निदेशक आई.सी.आर.आई. इण्डियानगर के प्रतिनिधि और तादुरतया 1998 से 2005 तक अध्यक्ष राष्ट्रीय विज्ञानपर एवं वन्यजीव विचारसक संघ, बरेली (उ.प्र.) की डेविशन से)। (ई) सदस्य-राष्ट्रीय संरक्षण समिति पर्यावरण एवं वन मंत्रालय, निदेशक राष्ट्रीय प्राणी उद्यान, नई दिल्ली की डेविशन से (१) निदेशक आई.सी.आर.आई. इण्डियानगर के प्रतिनिधि की डेविशन से राष्ट्रीय वन्यजीव समिति की सभा में प्रतिनिधित्व।

**3. वर्तमान जिम्मेदारियाँ :**

(अ) प्रोफेसर एमेरिटस (वन्यजीव) - वन एवं पर्यावरण विद्यालय, सिविल्स, इन्सहावाद (उ.प्र.) (आ) अध्यक्ष - भारतीय विज्ञानपर एवं वन्यजीव विचारसक संघ, बरेली (उ.प्र.) (इ) -सदस्य एवं राजदूत - वन्यजीव विचारसक अनुसंधान संस्थान, कर्नाटक वन्य विचारसक, वन्य और मानव विज्ञान, विश्वविद्यालय, बेंगलूरु। (ई) विशेषज्ञ सदस्य-अन्तर्राष्ट्रीय संगठन प्राकृतिक और प्राकृतिक संसाधनों के संरक्षण (आई.यू.एन.)

**4. वन्यजीवों के प्रबंधन एवं अनुसंधान प्रशिक्षण प्राप्त किए-**

(अ) 04 से 21 जनवरी 1982 तक यू.एन. स्वास्थ्य एवं वन्यजीव विभाग के सहयोग से भारत सरकार द्वारा आयोजित कानून राष्ट्रीय प्राणी उद्यान म.प्र. में वन्यजीव अनुसंधान और प्रबंधन की तकनीकों का प्रशिक्षण। (आ) भूतनिक, जर्मनी की हेल्महुड विज्ञानपर के सहयोग से भारतीय पर्यावरण एवं वन मंत्रालय द्वारा राष्ट्रीय प्राणी उद्यान में वन्यजीव विचारसक, देखभाल एवं निवारण विषय पर आयोजित कार्यशाळा। (इ) वन्यजीव परिसंरचितियों और जीव विज्ञान संस्थान (2011) में नई प्रणतियों और क्रियाविधि पर बीजिंग (China) में वाइनेज एकेडमी ऑफ साइंसेज द्वारा 18 से 28 अगस्त 2011 तक आयोजित अन्तर्राष्ट्रीय प्रशिक्षण कोर्स।

**5. प्रकाशित पुस्तकें :**

(अ) भारतीय वन सतनपाइयों की उत्पत्ति एवं संरक्षण (2002) वन सतनपाइयों की अडार आवश्यकताएँ (2004) वन सतनपाइयों का नियंत्रण एवं स्थानान्तरण (Restrain & Translocation), वन्यजीवों का पुनः स्थान (2007), वन्यजीवों की बीमारियों एवं विषमताएँ (1994, 2003), (आ) भारतीय वन्यजीव वर्णिक किलान सीरीज बन्दुम एक से दस।

**6. अनुसंधान परियोजना पूर्ण की-**

कोंट वन्य जीव संरक्षण, प्रबंधन एवं रोग सर्वेक्षण, आई. सी.ए.आर.-आई.सी.आर.आई. इण्डियानगर, बरेली (उ.प्र.)-सात, विज्ञान एवं तकनीक मंत्रालय (DST)-एक और पर्यावरण एवं वन मंत्रालय (MoE&F) नई दिल्ली-एक

शोध पत्र - राष्ट्रीय एवं अन्तर्राष्ट्रीय जर्नल में प्रकाशित लेख 125 तथा विशेष लेख (सीड पेपर) अनेक।

**7. वैज्ञानिक वन्यजीव कार्यक्रमों का आयोजन-**

राष्ट्रीय संगोष्ठियाँ/सम्मेलन/कार्यशाळा-ती और अन्तर्राष्ट्रीय-बार। एलसवर्ट लेखर, और विभिन्न वैज्ञानिक कार्यक्रमों में वैज्ञानिक सत्र के अध्यक्ष या समन्वयक।

