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# Man-animal conflict: Compensation hiked in Gujarat

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AHMEDABAD: The state government has finally increased the compensation to be paid in cases of a human death due to man-animal conflict by 25%, and for the death cow or a buffalo by 67%. These compensation rates were last revised in June 2016.

<b>COMPENSATION</b>			
Category	Old	Revised	
Human death	₹4L	₹5L	
<b>HUMAN INJURY</b>			
Up to 60% disability	₹59k	₹1L	
More than 60% disability	₹2L	₹2L	
Compensation for hospitalization for 3 days or more	₹4.3k	₹10k	
<b>MILCH ANIMALS</b>			
Cow/Buffalo death	₹30k	₹50k	
Camel death	₹30k	₹40k	
<b>NON-MILCH ANIMALS</b>			
Camel/horse/ox death	₹25k	₹25k	
Calf, donkey & pony death	₹16k	₹20k	

The state government, through a notification issued late on Thursday, said that in case of human death the compensation has been raised to Rs 5 lakh from the existing Rs 4 lakh.

For death of a cow or a buffalo, it has been raised from Rs 30,000 to Rs 50,000. Officials said that in the case of non-milch animals, the compensation was only increased from Rs 16,000 to Rs 20,000.

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The increase in compensation was much-awaited, as several MLAs and NGOs had been demanded it. A senior officer said that the last time the compensation was revised it was about 18 months before the 2017 election. This time too, assembly elections are due this year.



Compensation will be paid only in cases involving lion, leopard, sloth bear, crocodile, wolf, hyena and wild boar. Though Gujarat does not have a tiger population, the government has also included tiger attack.

An officer said that in February 2019, 27 years after a tiger had last been sighted in the state, one was spotted along the border with Maharashtra in Dang district. If a tiger was to foray into the state and attack a human or cattle, compensation for it can be paid, and tiger were thus included on the list.

Forest department data on man-animal conflict reveals that leopard are the biggest killers in the state, having taken 109 lives in the eight years from 2012-12 to 2019-20. Crocodiles, whose burgeoning numbers in central and south Gujarat have become a cause of concern, claimed 45 lives. While lions are certainly scary, they have killed 13 persons in the state in this period. Data for 2020 and 2021 are yet to be released by the department.