

G70I needs to find long lasting solutions to man-animal conflicts. Substantiate.

India is home to 70% of wild tigers and 60% of wild elephants. The man-animal conflict is on the rise. 1160 elephants have been killed in 11 years.

Causes

Increasing population, drives to clear the forests and causes wild animals to migrate. 70% of wild tigers in India are outside protected areas.

- Overgrazing of cattle, rampant urbanization, unsustainable tourism are reasons for increased man-animal conflicts.

Solutions

for elephants - constructing solar fence,

proximity sensor with automated messaging

system as in practice in Karnataka.

- Adopting Plan Bee of Northwest Frontier railway to create honey bee sounds to drive away elephants.

Planting citronella and lemon grass too can deter elephants.

Tigers - Tigers in reserved areas can be radio tagged and their movements can be monitored.

- Construction of underpasses such as on NH-44 - Kanha - Pench which ensures seamless movement of tigers.

- Clearing invasive species such as Lantana, prosopea, that can increase the prey base of tigers.

Way forward

Planning and generating awareness at the community level and the role of keystone species to the environment must be educated.