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SUPREME COURT

When the Wild Knocks Back

Supreme Court Pushes States to Treat Animal–Human Clashes as Natural Calamities

Sheikh Rayees • November 18, 2025

PUBLISHED REPORT

In a firm nudge to governments across the country, the Supreme Court has told every State to seriously consider placing human–wildlife conflict in the same bracket as floods, cyclones and other natural calamities—an acknowledgment that the forest’s fury can be just as devastating as the sky’s rage. Alongside this, the Court has made one thing non-negotiable: families of victims who lose their lives in such encounters must receive INR10 lakh...

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