

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2271
ANSWERED ON:08.08.2005
POACHING OF MUSK DEER
Jagannath Dr. M.

Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the rare species of musk deer are facing extinction as they are being poached in large numbers;
- (b) if so, their latest population indicating comparative figures pertaining to the three earlier census; and
- (c) the steps taken/proposed to be taken to protect and promote the breed?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI NAMO NARAIN MEENA)

- (a) No report of poaching of musk deer in large numbers has been received. Also there are no reports of the species getting extinct.
- (b) Census of the musk deer is not compiled and collated at the level of Union Government.
- (c) The steps taken by the Government for protection of musk deer are as follows –
 - i. Musk deer is included in the Schedule I of the Wildlife (Protection) Act, 1972, thereby giving it highest degree of protection. Hunting of musk deer is prohibited under the provisions of the Act.
 - ii. The Central Bureau of Investigation has been empowered under the Wildlife (Protection) Act, 1972 to apprehend and prosecute wildlife offenders.
 - iii. The State Governments have been empowered under the Wildlife (Protection) Act, 1972 to reward any person who renders assistance in the detection of wildlife offence and apprehension of the offenders.
 - iv. Necessary technical and financial assistance is being provided for conservation and development of habitats of musk deer under Centrally Sponsored Scheme "Development of National Parks and Sanctuaries".