

ENDANGERED AND EXTINCT **SPECIES OF INDIA**



ENDANGERED SPECIES

- An endangered is a species that is very likely to become extinct in near future.
- Endangered species may be at risk due to factors such as habitat loss, poaching and invasive species.
- The International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN) Red list lists the global conservation status of many species, and various other agencies assess the status of species within particular areas.
- Some example of endangered species in India are Blackbuck, Kashmir stag, Nilgiri Tahr etc.

BLACKBUCK



- The blackbuck also known as the Indian antelope found in India, Nepal and Pakistan.
- The blackbuck is a moderately sized antelope. It stands up to 74 to 84 cm (29 to 33 inch) high at the shoulder; the head-to-body length is nearly 120 cm (47 inch).
- The length of horn of Blackbuck is 35-75 cm (14-30 inch).
- The horn diverge forming “V” - like shape.
- In India, horns are longer and more divergent in specimens from the northern and western parts of the country.
- Black Buck are commonly found in Punjab, Rajasthan, Haryana, Gujrat, and parts of Central India.

KASHMIR STAG



- The Kashmir stag, also called hangul, is a subspecies of elk native to Kashmir.
- It is found in dense riverine forests in the high valleys and mountains of the Kashmir valley and northern Chamba district in Himachal Pradesh.
- In Kashmir, it is found in the Dachigam National Park where it receives protection but elsewhere it is more at risk.
- Its head and body length measures about 2130 to 2286 mm. Male deer weighs about 200-300 kilograms. Female deer weighs about 100-150 kilograms.
- Hangul can grow up to 120-140centimeters in height.

EXTINCT SPECIES

- Extinction is the termination of a kind of organism or of a group of kinds (taxon), usually a species.
- A species is extinct when the last existing member dies. Extinction therefore becomes a certainty when there are no surviving individuals that can reproduce and create a new generation.
- More than 99 percent of all species, amounting to over five billion species, that ever lived on earth are estimated to have died out.
- It is estimated there are currently around 8.7 million species of eukaryote globally, and possibly many times more if microorganism, like bacteria, are included.
- Some examples of Extinct species are Pink-headed duck, Indian aurochs.

PINK- HEADED DUCK



- The pink-headed duck is a large diving duck that was once found in parts of the Gangetic plains of India, Bangladesh and in the riverine swamps of Myanmar but feared extinct since the 1950s.
- Numerous searches have failed to provide any proof of continued existence. It has been suggested that it may exist in the inaccessible swamp regions of northern Myanmar and some sight reports from that region have led to its status being declared as "Critically Endangered" rather than extinct.
- It is unique in the pink colouration of the head combined with a dark body. A prominent wing patch and the long slender neck are features shared with the common Indian spot-billed duck.
- The eggs have also been held as particularly peculiar in being nearly spherical.

INDIAN AUROCHS



- The Indian aurochs was a subspecies of the extinct aurochs.
- It is considered the wild ancestor of the domestic zebu cattle, which is mainly found in the Indian subcontinent and has been introduced in many other parts of the world, like Africa and South America.
- In contrast, the domesticated taurine cattle breeds, which are native to Europe, the Near East, and other parts of the world, are descendants of the Eurasian aurochs.
- According to IUCN, the Indian aurochs disappeared before the 13th century AD.

CONSERVATION OF ENDANGERED SPECIES

- Captive breeding is the process of breeding rare or endangered species in human controlled environments with restricted settings, such as wildlife reserves, zoos, and other conservation facilities.
- Captive breeding meant to save species from extinction and so stabilise the population of the species will not disappear.
- This technique has worked for many species for some time, with probably the oldest known such instances of captive mating being attributed to menageries of European and Asian rulers, an example being the Pere David's Deer.

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