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Title: Need to classify wild boar as vermin under the Wildlife (Protection) Act.

**SHRI RAJMOHAN UNNITHAN (KASARAGOD):** Sir, wild boar is classed as least concern for wildlife protection by the International Union for Conservation of Nature and it has become an invasive species posing threat to crops and human life in part of its introduced ranges.

In Kerala, wild boar has turned into a menace for the farmers as an animal causing wide spread crop loss in the State. Recently, wild boar attack claimed a life in my constituency, Kasaragod. The Government of Kerala has approached the Wildlife Institute of India, Dehradun for classifying wild boar as vermin. If wild boar is declared to be vermin under the Wild Life (Protection) Act, it can be culled. Since the Act is a Central Act, only the Union Government can modify it and reclassify the animals.

Currently, wild boar is included in Schedule III of the Act and its killing will invite fine and imprisonment. As per Section 62 of the Wild Life (Protection) Act, 1972, States can send a list of wild animals to the Centre requesting it to declare them to be vermin for selective slaughter. The Central Government may, by notification, declare any wild animal, other than those specified in Schedule I and Part 11 of Schedule H of the Act, to be vermin for any area for a given period of time. As long as the notification is in force, such wild animal shall be included in Schedule V of the Act, depriving them of any protection under the Act.

As wild boar is classed as least concern by the International Union for Conservation of Nature, and it has turned into a menace to the farmers in Kerala. The Union Government may be pleased to declare wild boar as vermin in Kerala.

**माननीय अध्यक्ष:** श्री कुलदीप राय शर्मा को श्री राजमोहन उन्नीथन द्वारा उठाए गए विषय के साथ संबद्ध करने की अनुमति प्रदान की जाती है।