

Seventeenth Loksabha

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Title: Regarding development of holistic plan for the conservation of Sangai deer and Loktak Lake-laid.

SHRI RAJU BISTA (DARJEELING): The endangered Sangai Deer from Manipur, is facing the threat of extinction due to climate change. A critically endangered deer species, Sangai is listed in IUCN Red List, and is found only in Keibul Lamjao National Park. This deer lives around the floating biomass of vegetation in the Loktak Lake, locally known as Phumdi. However, climate change, water pollution and other human pressures are degenerating these natural habitats. As per the 2016 census, there are only about 260 Sangai Deers left at the protected park. Sangai as state animal of Manipur is deeply embedded in the cultural consciousness of the Manipuri people. The survival of Sangai and Loktak are complementary to each other, and the Health of Loktak Lake plays a critical role in conserving the economic and socio-cultural values of Manipur. I request Union Environment Ministry to help develop holistic plans for the conservation of Sangai and Loktak Lake.