

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3124  
ANSWERED ON:19.03.2001  
AMENDMENTS TO WILDLIFE PROTECTION ACT  
RASA SINGH RAWAT

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

- (a) whether the Government propose to amend the Wildlife Protection Act;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether the Rajasthan Government has requested for some amendments in the Act in view of damage caused to crops by Neelgais in the State; and
- (d) if so, the reaction of the Union Government thereto?

**Answer**

THE MINISTER OF THE STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI T.R. BAALU):

- (a) Yes, Sir.
- (b) The proposed amendments include:
  - (i) Involvement of local communities in management of wildlife protected areas and using the forest usufructs that are available in the process of management of the habitat of wild animals being explicitly to the local communities.
  - (ii) Effective enforcement of the provisions of the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Flora and Fauna (CITES) and regulating possession and trade of such species covered by the Convention.
  - (iii) Making punitive sections of the Act more stringent and effective.
  - (iv) Making Indian Board for Wildlife a statutory body.
- (c) Government of Rajasthan has not requested the Central Government for any amendment in the Act. They have only requested for transfer of Blue Bull from Schedule III to Schedule V of the Act so that it may be treated as a vermin.
- (d) Section 11 (i)(b) of the Wildlife (Protection) Act, 1972 provides adequate powers to the State Governments to get any wild animal specified in Schedules II, III & IV that becomes dangerous to human life or to property (including standing crops on any land) hunted.