

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1378  
ANSWERED ON:29.10.2008  
DECLINE IN BLACK BUCKS POPULATION  
Nayak Shri Ananta

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

- (a) the details of population of black bucks in the country, State-wise;
- (b) whether there is a sharp decline in their population in the country;
- (c) if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor; and
- (d) the details of the steps taken by the Government to save these rare species from extinction?

**Answer**

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI S. REGUPATHY)

- (a): Exclusive and comprehensive country wide population estimation of black bucks has not been carried out.
- (b): No, Sir. There are no such reports.
- (c): Does not arise.
- (d): The steps taken by Government of India to protect wildlife including rare species are as under:
  - i. Threatened species of wildlife are included in the Schedules of the Wildlife (Protection) Act, 1972, thereby according them the highest degree of protection.
  - ii. The Wildlife (Protection) Act, 1972 has been amended from time to time and made more stringent against wildlife related offences.
  - iii. Network of Protected Areas have been established for better protection of wildlife and their habitats including black bucks.
  - iv. The State Governments have been requested to strengthen the field formations and intensify patrolling in and around the Protected Areas and other biodiversity rich areas.
  - v. Financial and technical assistance is extended to the State/UT Governments under various Centrally Sponsored Schemes, viz., 'Development of National Parks and Sanctuaries', 'Project Tiger' and 'Project Elephant' for providing better protection to wildlife, including black bucks.
  - vi. Wildlife Crime Control Bureau, with a network of five Regional and three Sub-Regional Offices, has been set up to control wildlife crime.
  - vii. India is a signatory to the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora (CITES) that regulates international trade in wildlife and its derivatives.