

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1045  
ANSWERED ON:04.03.2013  
NUMBERS OF WILD ASSES IN LADAKH AREA  
Khan Shri Hassan

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

- (a) whether the Government has conducted any survey of Wild Asses in Changthang region of Ladakh bordering China;
- (b) if so, whether the number of these wild animals is increasing alarmingly; and
- (c) if so, the impact thereof on the pastures of Pashmina goats in the area and the measures taken by the Government in this regard?

**Answer**

MINISTER OF STATE (INDEPENDENT CHARGE) FOR ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRIMATI JAYANTHI NATARAJAN)

(a)&(b) Survey on Wild Ass, known as Kiang in Ladakhi, has been conducted by Wildlife Institute of India, Dehradun in 1996, 2006 and 2009. As per information received from the Wildlife Institute of India, Dehradun no increase in Kiang population between 2006-2009 has been detected in these surveys.

(c) Kiang being a coarse grass feeder enhances availability of quality forage for smaller ungulates including Pashmina goats.