



Blackbuck Killed in Sirsa

Why in News?

Recently, a [blackbuck poaching](#) incident in **Jandwala Bishnoiyan village, Sirsa district**, has outraged [the Bishnoi community](#).

- The community, known for its commitment to [wildlife conservation](#), is demanding **stronger action to safeguard endangered species** and prevent further poaching.

Key Points

- **About the Incident:**
 - On 23rd December 2024, the **carcass of a five-year-old male blackbuck was found** with cut marks, indicating poaching.
 - Veterinary surgeon conducted the post-mortem, identifying a punctured wound as evidence of poaching.
 - Other animals, such as a [nilgai](#) and calves, might have also been poached in the area.
- **Conservation Concerns:**
 - Local conservationists are alarmed by the declining blackbuck population in the region.
 - **The Akhil Bhartiya Jeev Raksha Bishnoi Sabha**, highlighted the **impact of de-notification of sanctuaries in 2017** on wildlife in villages like **Jandwala Bishnoiyan, Ganga, and Bhaukhera**.
 - [Blackbucks and chinkara deer](#) populations have significantly decreased since de-notification.
 - A case has been registered under **Sections 9, 39, 49, 51, and 54** of [the Wildlife Protection Act 1972](#).

Blackbucks

//



▪ About:

- The Blackbuck (*Antelope cervicapra*), or the **Indian Antelope**, is a species of antelope native to India and Nepal.
 - It is widespread in **Rajasthan, Gujarat, Madhya Pradesh, Tamil Nadu, Odisha**, and other areas throughout peninsular India.
- It is considered as the **epitome of grassland**.
- The **blackbuck is a diurnal antelope** (active mainly during the day).

▪ Recognition:

- It has been **declared as the State Animal of Punjab, Haryana, and Andhra Pradesh**.

▪ Cultural Importance:

- It is a **symbol of purity for Hinduism** as its skin and horns are regarded as sacred objects. For **Buddhism**, it is a **symbol of good luck**.

▪ Protection Status:

- **Wildlife Protection Act 1972**: Schedule I
- **IUCN Status**: Least Concern
- **CITES**: Appendix III

▪ Threat:

- Habitat Fragmentation, **Deforestation**, **Natural Calamities**, Illegal Hunting.

▪ Related Protected Areas:

- Velavadar Blackbuck Sanctuary - Gujarat
- Point Calimere Wildlife Sanctuary - Tamil Nadu
- In 2017, the Uttar Pradesh State Government approved the plan of setting up the **Blackbuck Conservation Reserve** in the trans-Yamuna belt near Prayagraj. It **would be the first conservation reserve dedicated to the blackbuck**.
- **Tal Chhapar Sanctuary**- Rajasthan