BLACKBUCK



Photo courtesy: Kalyan Verma

ILLEGAL WILDLIFE TRADE

BEHAVIOUR & BIOLOGY



🗞 Only remaining member of the genus Antelope, found in verv few habitats across India.



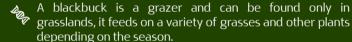
🗞 Blackbuck is endemic to India, meaning found nowhere else in the world



Its most striking feature is a pair of long, spiral horns marked by rings and possessed by the male of the species. The males use their horns to attract females in a male combat mating ritual.



By taking its horns, you rob a male blackbuck of its chance of survival.





Diurnal and social, blackbucks can be found singly or in herds upto 50.



🝖 Blackbuck is a prey for several carnivores like jackal, wolf and leopard, it relies entirely on its speed to escape. It can leap exceptionally high into the air, galloping away at 80 kilometers an hour.



Schedule I of the Indian Wildlife Protection Act

ILLEGAL WILDLIFE TRADE CATEGORY



STATUS SYMBOL

(put on display as a wall hanging, luxury item)







MEAT

(consumption within the state of Andhra Pradhesh)





SOURCE TRANSIT CONSUMER



Blackbucks are found only in grasslands, local knowledge of their behaviour and whereabouts is used to hunt and capture them.

A hunter uses a special gun to shoot down a black buck.



A special expert is called in to extract the horns from the body, as well as the meat

The horns and meat are kept at a local dealers house temporarily



An urban dealer buys the horns from the distributor;

A designated transporter carries them in a flight to a destination market such as Bangkok, Thailand



Traders from around the world have access to purchase the horns from here

A taxidermist works on processing the horns, making it into a luxury artefact





A distributor buys this luxury item from its manufacturer

The taxidermied blackbuck head is put on display at a high end boutique

A customer pays lots of money to buy the blackbuck head, takes it home

The taxidermied blackbuck head is put on display at the home of a rich family





Image courtesy: Wikipedia, Flickr, Pixabay & The Noun Project