

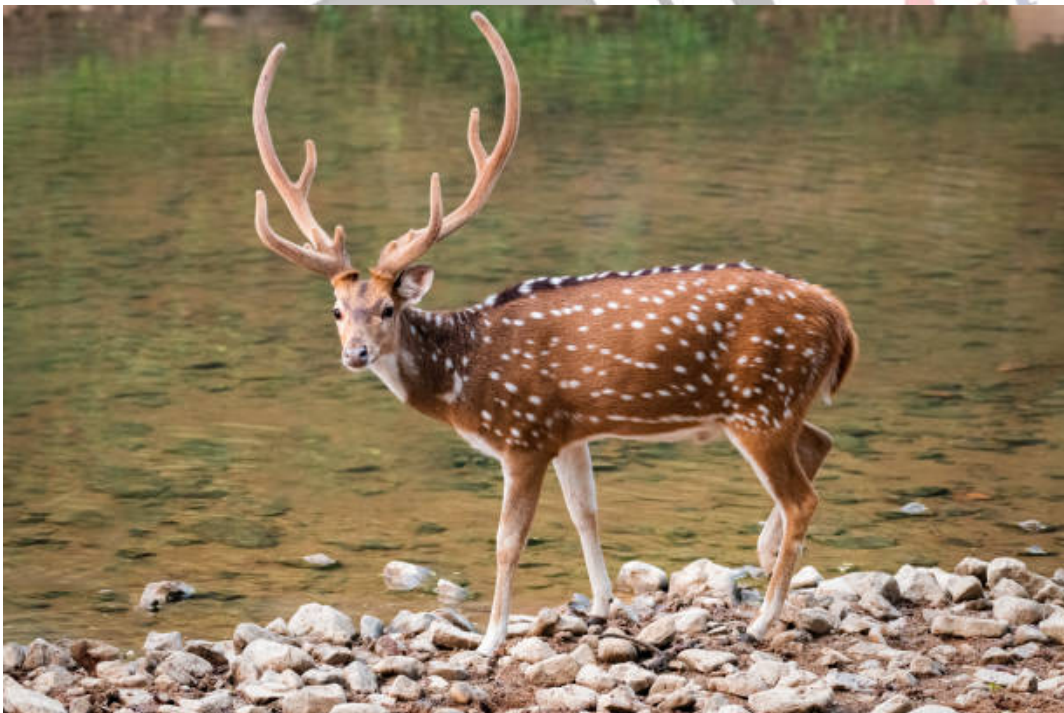


Invasive Chital Population in A&N Islands

Source: IE

The **chital** (*Axis axis*) **population** on **Bose Island**, Andaman and Nicobar Islands has exceeded the ecosystem's carrying capacity, prompting the Andaman and Nicobar Forest Department to consider relocating around **500 deer** to a Biological Park in Port Blair.

- It was brought to the Andaman and Nicobar Islands for hunting in the early 1900s by the British.
 - Recent studies indicate that the invasive chital species is negatively impacting local flora and fauna, necessitating strategic management measures.
- Under the [Wildlife Protection Act, 1972](#), an [Chief Wildlife Warden](#) can permit translocation for the purpose of scientific management.
 - The law mandates that such translocation should cause minimum trauma to animals.
- The chital, also known as the **spotted deer** or **axis deer**, is a graceful and elegant herbivore native to the grasslands and forests of **India and Sri Lanka**.
 - They prefer open grasslands, savannas, and lightly forested areas.
 - [IUCN Red list](#): **Least Concern**
 - **WLPA 1972: Schedule II.**



Read more: [Wildlife Protection Act, 1972](#)

