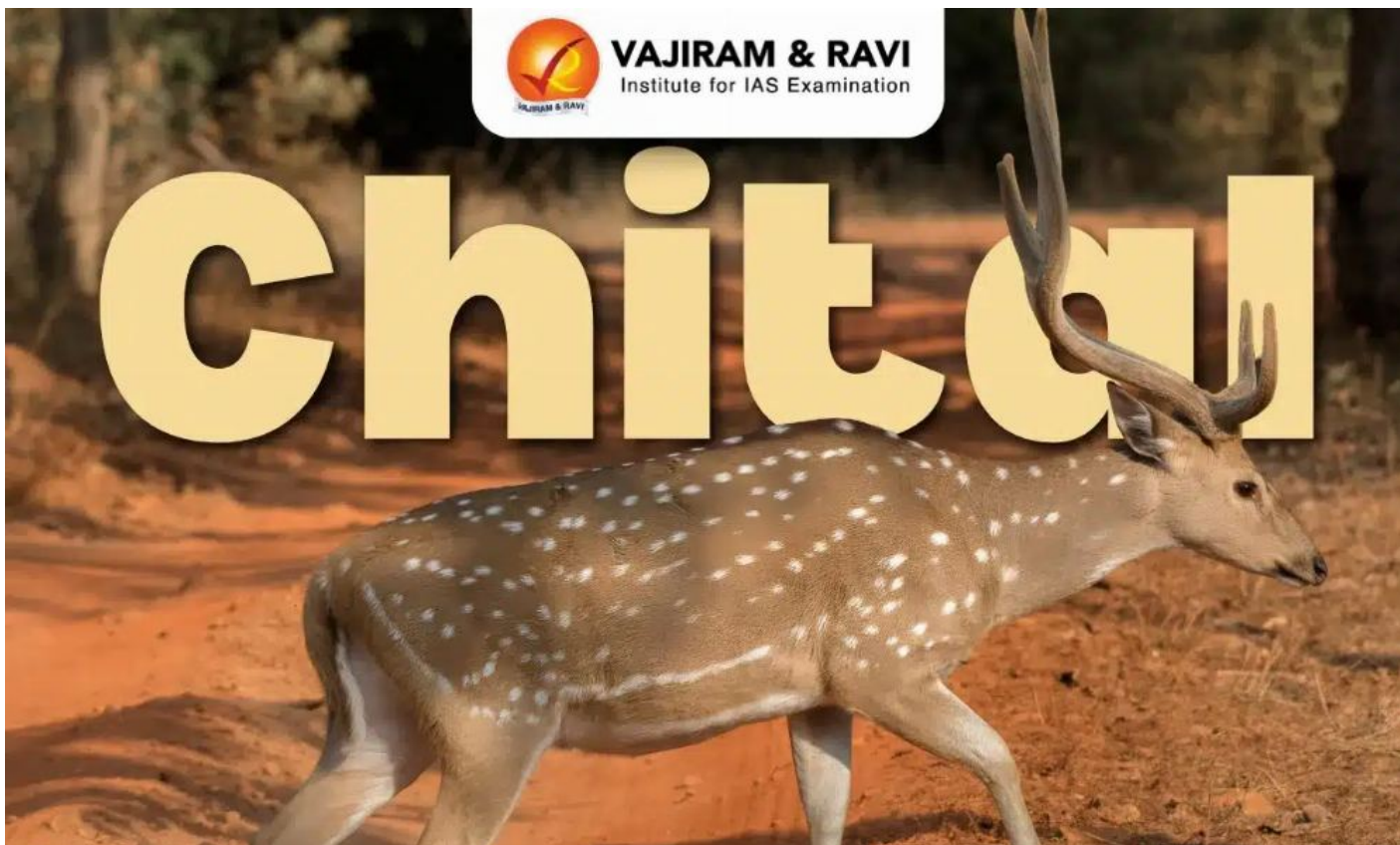


Chital

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Chital Latest News

A chital was allegedly hunted inside the core area of **Udanti-Sitanadi Tiger Reserve**, and forest officials arrested two villagers, seizing suspected animal meat, bows, arrows, and animal traps recently.

About Chital

- Chital, also known as **spotted deer** or **axis deer**, is a **medium-sized deer species** native to the **Indian subcontinent**.
- Scientific Name: Axis axis

Chital Habitat and Distribution

- The Chital is found in **India, Nepal, Bhutan, Bangladesh**, and **Sri Lanka**.
- It lives in **grasslands** and forests in **herds**.

Chital Features

- It stands at about 35 inches tall and weighs about 187 pounds.
- The body **color is reddish** with **white on the belly, inner legs, and underneath their short tail.**
- The **males** tend to be **darker** and to have **black facial markings.**
- **Both the genders** have **small white spots on the body**, hence **named Spotted or Chital.**
- Spotted deer are **sexually dimorphic. Males** are significantly **larger than females**, and **only male deers possess antlers.**
- Its **curved, three-pronged antlers** extend nearly 3 feet and **shed each year.**
- Lifespan: 20 to 30 years
- They are **social animals.** They occur in herds of 10 to 50 individuals, with one or two males and a number of females and young.

Chital Conservation Status

It is classified as '**Least Concern**' under the IUCN Red List.

News: TOI

Source: <https://vajiramandravi.com/current-affairs/spotted-deer/>

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