

Double-Humped Bactrian Camel

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Double-Humped Bactrian Camel Latest News

Ladakh's double-humped Bactrian camels are set to debut at the 77th Republic Day parade.

About Double-Humped Bactrian Camel

- It is scientifically known as **Camelus bactrianus**.
- Its large **even-toed ungulates** are renowned as Ladakh's "silent warriors".
- **Distribution**
 - They are native to the **harsh and arid regions of Central Asia**.
 - They occupy habitats in **Central Asia from Afghanistan to China**, primarily up into the Mongolian steppes and the Gobi desert.
 - Small populations of these camels are **found in high altitude cold deserts of Ladakh's Nubra Valley**.

Characteristics of Double-Humped Bactrian Camel

- The two humps serve as a **reservoir of fat** that can be **converted into water** and energy during long treks where food is scarce.
- They **possess thick, shaggy coats** that fluctuate with the seasons, growing dense to withstand temperatures as low as minus 40 degrees Celsius.
- Their **nostrils are sealable to block out frozen dust**, while their broad feet act like natural snowshoes.
- They are among the few land animals **that can survive by eating snow** to meet their hydration needs.
- **Diet:** Bactrian **camels are omnivores but primarily herbivores** and eat various types of plants.
- **Conservation Status: IUCN Red List:** Critically Endangered.

Source: India Today

Source: <https://vajiramandravi.com/current-affairs/double-humped-bactrian-camel/>

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