

Bill No. XXIII of 2025

THE WILD LIFE (PROTECTION) AMENDMENT
BILL, 2025

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BILL

further to amend the Wild Life (Protection) Act, 1972.

BE it enacted by Parliament in the Seventy-sixth Year of the Republic of India as follows: —

1. (1) This Act may be called the Wild Life (Protection) Amendment Bill, 2025.
(2) It shall come into force at once.
2. In section 11 of the Wild Life (Protection) Act, 1972 (hereinafter referred to as the principal Act), in clause (1), in sub-clause (a), the first and second provisos and the Explanation shall be omitted.

Short title and
commencement.

Amendment of
section 11.

Substitution of
section 62.

Declaration of
certain wild
animals to be
vermin.

3. For section 62 of the principal Act, the following shall be substituted, namely:—

“The Central Government may, on the recommendations of the State Government, by notification, declare any wild animal specified in Schedule I and II to be vermin for any area and for such period as may be specified therein; and so long as such notification is in force, such wild animal shall be deemed not to be included in Schedule I or Schedule II, as the case may be, for such area and for such period as may be specified in the notification.” 5

STATEMENT OF OBJECTS AND REASONS

The number of attacks on human beings by wild animals is increasing exponentially. The existing Wild Life Protection Act with its extremely rigid provisions has made the removal of dangerous wild animals an impossibility. The amendments to the act in 2002 have further increased its rigidity resulting in a situation in which the Wild Life wardens are unable to act to protect human lives. There is an urgent need to correct this anomaly.

The extreme diversity of India also demands decentralisation in forest management practices and the States should be given the power to decide upon the declaration of any animal as vermin if it becomes a threat to human life, livelihood and property.

Hence, this Bill.

V. SIVADASAN.

ANNEXURE

EXTRACTS FROM THE WILD LIFE (PROTECTION) ACT, 1972
(53 OF 1972)

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Hunting of wild animals to be permitted in certain cases.	11.	(1) Notwithstanding anything contained in any other law for the time being in force and subject to the provisions of Chapter IV,—			
		(a) the Chief Wild Life Warden may, if he is satisfied that any wild animal specified in Schedule I has become dangerous to human life or is so disabled or diseased as to be beyond recovery, by Order in writing and stating the reasons therefor, permit any person to hunt such animal or cause such animal to be hunted;			
		Provided that no wild animal shall be ordered to be killed unless the Chief Wild Life Warden is satisfied that such animal cannot be captured, tranquilised or translocated:			
		Provided further that no such captured animal shall be kept in captivity unless the Chief Wild Life Warden is satisfied that such animal cannot be rehabilitated in the wild and the reasons for the same are recorded in writing.			
		<i>Explanation.</i> —For the purposes of clause (a), the process of capture or translocation, as the case may be, of such animal shall be made in such manner as to cause minimum trauma to the said animal			
	*	*	*	*	*
Declaration of certain wild animals to be vermin.	62.	The Central Government may, by notification, declare any wild animal specified in Schedule II to be vermin for any area and for such period as may be specified therein and so long as such notification is in force, such wild animal shall be deemed not to be included in Schedule II for such area and for such period as specified in the notification.			
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further to amend the Wild Life (Protection) Act, 1972.

(Dr. V. Sivadasan, M.P.)