

Current Test Explanation 53

Question 1

Answer: D

Chiru Goat

- Chiru goat also known as the **Tibetan antelope** whose underfur is used for making the famous Shahtoosh shawls.
- It is a **migratory species of the cold desert**, moving seasonally between lower and higher altitudes, and can be found between 3,700m and 5,500m.
- It requires large expanse of land for its movement and ranging patterns to fulfil its feeding and breeding requirements.
- Chiru is a protected species in India, China and Nepal.
- Its geographical range extends from Ladakh in the west to Ngoring Hu (China) in the east.
- In India, the species were recorded at two places, Daulat Beg Oldie (DBO) in the Karakoram Range and the Chang Chenmo Valley in Ladakh.

Shahtoosh Shawls

- Shahtoosh shawls are prepared from the fur in the undercoat of Chiru goats.
- 3-5 chiru goats are to be killed to collect the fur for a single shawl as the wool cannot be sheared or combed from the goat.
- It is woven by highly skilled Kashmiri artisans.
- Shahtoosh shawls are a status symbol in India and Pakistan and one of the most valuable dowry gifts a person can give.
- Shahtoosh should not be confused with pashmina shawls which are combed out of the live pashmina goat.

Protection

- The selling or owning of shahtoosh was made illegal in all countries that signed the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species (CITES) on March 3, 1975.
- India endorsed the ban in 1976 and it was extended to Jammu and Kashmir in 2002.

Question 2

Answer: A

It is valid for 10 years.

Question 3

Answer: B

It is undisputedly the cleanest river in Asia with its crystal clear water not in World.

Question 4

Answer: C

Question 5

Answer: C