

## 2. ALBINO SAMBAR

In November 1951, I was near Gunaithittu in the Talamalai Range, North Coimbatore, and saw a single white Sambar stag with five normal coloured hinds. On a previous trip in May 1951 I saw a single white hind with two normal coloured ones. This is the first time that I have seen albino sambar. The shikaris of the local Malasa tribe informed me that they have frequently seen white sambar of both sexes.

I hope that efforts will be made to protect them as far as possible.

15, PERUMAL KOIL STREET,  
FORT,  
COIMBATORE,  
January 4, 1952.

B. SUBBIAH PILLAY

## 3. MYSTERY PREDATOR

I was interested to see the article 'Mystery Predator' by Mr. E. P. Gee in the last *Journal*, Vol. 51 (3), p. 732.

Last February one of my guinea-fowl was killed in the mali-bari by a Jungle Cat (*Felis chaus*) which was seen by my staff. Part of the body was eaten and the rest buried in three different places including an egg which would have been laid that day.

This may be the solution to the mystery.

BORPUKHURI TEA ESTATE,  
MIJIKAJAN P.O.,  
ASSAM,  
October 15, 1953.

D. G. MESTON

## 4. WILD LIFE CONSERVATION—THE PROBLEM OF THE DEER

There has recently been controversy in England about hunting the wild red deer of Exmoor. A contributor to the *Sunday Times* of August 16th, 1953 (Exmoor's 'Problem of the Deer'), having obviously complete local and general knowledge of the subject, writes that some have a strong feeling against hunting the deer, but reminds those in favour of abolishing the staghounds that this would not be wholly beneficial to the animals they desire to protect. He acknowledges that the deer must be kept down in the interests of the many owners and cultivators of various crops raised both within the borders and on the confines of the forest; and points out that the erection and maintenance of deer-proof fences would be extremely costly; that the trapping would not be selective and must be rejected on humane grounds; that whenever hunting has declined poaching has flourished; and poaching, if unchecked, means the end of the deer, for the poacher flouts the two basic biological principles observed by the





Pillay, B S. 1954. "Albino Sambar." *The journal of the Bombay Natural History Society* 51, 935–935.

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