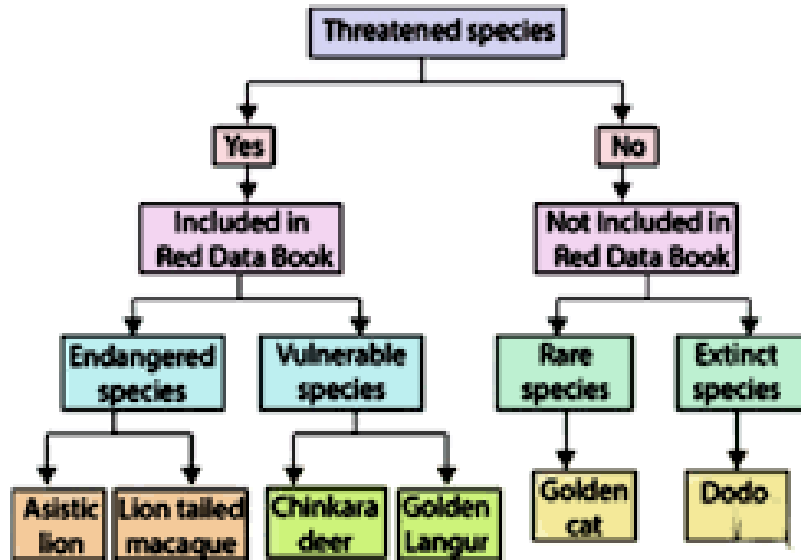


Endangered and Endemic Species of India



Endangered Species of India:

1. Bengal Tiger (*Panthera tigris tigris*):

- **Status:** Endangered
- **Habitat:** Found in various habitats including grasslands, mangrove swamps, and dense forests.
- **Threats:** Habitat loss, poaching, and human-wildlife conflict.

2. Indian Elephant (*Elephas maximus indicus*):

- **Status:** Endangered
- **Habitat:** Various ecosystems, from grasslands to rainforests.
- **Threats:** Habitat fragmentation, poaching for ivory, and human-wildlife conflict.

3. Asiatic Lion (*Panthera leo persica*):

- **Status:** Endangered
- **Habitat:** Gir Forest in Gujarat.
- **Threats:** Habitat loss, disease, and potential natural disasters.

4. Snow Leopard (*Panthera uncia*):

- **Status:** Vulnerable
- **Habitat:** Mountainous regions, especially the Himalayas.
- **Threats:** Poaching for their fur, retaliation killings, and loss of prey.

5. Great Indian Bustard (*Ardeotis nigriceps*):

- **Status:** Critically Endangered
- **Habitat:** Grasslands and semi-arid regions.



- **Threats:** Habitat loss due to agriculture, hunting, and disturbance during the breeding season.
6. **Red Panda (*Ailurus fulgens*):**
 - **Status:** Vulnerable
 - **Habitat:** Himalayan forests.
 - **Threats:** Habitat loss, poaching, and climate change affecting bamboo, their primary food source.
 7. **Olive Ridley Turtle (*Lepidochelys olivacea*):**
 - **Status:** Vulnerable
 - **Habitat:** Coastal areas and oceans.
 - **Threats:** Nesting habitat destruction, accidental capture in fishing gear, and pollution.
 8. **Indian Rhinoceros (*Rhinoceros unicornis*):**
 - **Status:** Vulnerable
 - **Habitat:** Grasslands and swamps in the foothills of the Himalayas.
 - **Threats:** Habitat loss, poaching for their horn, and flooding.

Endemic Species of India:

1. **Nilgiri Tahr (*Nilgiritragus hylocrius*):**
 - **Endemic to:** Western Ghats
 - **Habitat:** High-altitude grasslands and sholas.
 - **Significance:** Iconic mountain ungulate found only in the southern part of the Western Ghats.
2. **Andaman Wood Pigeon (*Columba palumboides*):**
 - **Endemic to:** Andaman Islands
 - **Habitat:** Dense forests.
 - **Significance:** Unique bird species found exclusively in the Andaman archipelago.
3. **Lion-tailed Macaque (*Macaca silenus*):**
 - **Endemic to:** Western Ghats
 - **Habitat:** Rainforests.
 - **Significance:** Distinctive primate species known for its distinctive appearance and endangered status.
4. **Kashmir Stag (*Cervus canadensis hanglu*):**
 - **Endemic to:** Dachigam National Park in Jammu and Kashmir.
 - **Habitat:** Alpine meadows and coniferous forests.
 - **Significance:** Also known as the Hangul, it is a critically endangered subspecies of the red deer.
5. **Namdapha Flying Squirrel (*Biswamoyopterus biswasi*):**
 - **Endemic to:** Namdapha National Park, Arunachal Pradesh.
 - **Habitat:** Montane forests.



- **Significance:** Recently discovered species, highlighting the biodiversity richness of the Eastern Himalayas.
6. **Coorg Yellow Bush Frog (*Raorchestes luteolus*):**
 - **Endemic to:** Western Ghats, particularly Coorg region.
 - **Habitat:** Evergreen forests.
 - **Significance:** Small-sized frog species with distinctive yellow coloration.
 7. **Wayanad Mahseer (*Neolissochilus wynaadensis*):**
 - **Endemic to:** Western Ghats, particularly Wayanad region.
 - **Habitat:** Freshwater rivers and streams.
 - **Significance:** Critically endangered freshwater fish species, highlighting the importance of conservation efforts.
 8. **Saddle Peak Green Pigeon (*Treron phayrei fuscipennis*):**
 - **Endemic to:** Andaman and Nicobar Islands.
 - **Habitat:** Evergreen forests.
 - **Significance:** Unique subspecies of the Wedge-tailed Green Pigeon found exclusively in the Andaman archipelago.

In conclusion, the diverse ecosystems of India harbor both endangered species, facing threats to their survival, and endemic species, found nowhere else on Earth. Conservation efforts are crucial to safeguard these species and preserve the rich biodiversity that makes India a global hotspot for wildlife.