

## Endangered & Endemic Species of India

**Extinct Species:** A species is said to be extinct when it is no longer found in the world.

**Endangered Species:** A species is said to be endangered, when its number has been reduced to a critical level. Unless it is protected and conserved it is in immediate danger of extinction.

**Vulnerable Species:** A species is said to be vulnerable when its population is facing continuous decline due to habitat destruction or over exploitation. Such a species is still abundant.

**Rare Species:** A species is said to be rare, when it is localized within restricted area (or) they are thinly scattered over a more extensive area. Such species are not endangered or vulnerable.

### Endangered Species of India

A species is said to be endangered, when its number has been reduced to a critical level. Unless it is protected & conserved, it is in immediate danger of extinction.

Group of threatened species	Number of threatened species
plants	250
Birds	70
Mammals	86
Reptiles	25
Amphibians	3

Fishes 3

Molluscs 2

Insects 50

### Important endangered Species

Reptiles - Tortoise, Green Sea turtle

Birds - Peacock, Siberian White Crane

Mammals - Indian wolf, red fox

primates - Hoolock gibbon, Capped monkey

plant - A large number of medicinal plants

Sandal wood trees

### Factors affecting endangered Species:

\* pollution

\* Over exploitation

\* Climate Change

### Remedial Measures:

#### International treaties on Endangered Species (ITES)

Several international treaties

conventions help to protect endangered wild species

One of the most reaching treaty is Convention on

International Trade in Endangered Species

✓ This treaty lists some 900 species that cannot be commercially traded as live specimens or wildlife products because they are in danger of extinction.

✓ The treaty also restricts international trade of 2900 other species, because they are endangered.

#### Drawbacks of this treaty:

\* The bad news of this treaty is that the effect of this treaty is limited because enforcement is difficult and convicted violators often pay only small fines.

\* Also member countries can exempt themselves from protecting any listed species Endemic Species!

The species, which are found only in a particular region are known as endemic species.

In India, 47000 species. 7000 plants are endemic.

Nearly 62% of our endemic species are found available in Himalayas & Western Ghats.

### Fauna

Animals present in a particular region or period.

Examples for endemic fauna species:

Monitor lizards, reticulated python

### Flora

Plants present in a particular region or period.

Examples for endemic flora species:

Sapria himalayana, Otaria lurida

Endemic Species in India

Group	No. of species
pteridophyta	200
Angiosperms	4950
Land	878
Freshwater	89
Insecta	16214

Amphibia 10

Reptilia 23

Aves 17

Mammalia 25

Factors affecting endemic species:

- \* Habitat loss & fragmentation, because of the draining & filling of inland wetlands.

- \* pollution also play an important role.

Ex

- \* Frog eggs, tadpoles & adults are very sensitive to many pollutants especially pesticides.

- \* Overhunting of frog legs in Asia & France.

- \* populations of some can also be reduced by introduction of non-active predators & competitors and disease producing organism.