

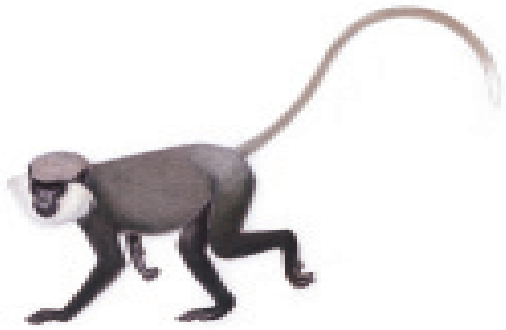
Guide to
South Asian Primates
for Teachers and Students of All Ages

Lorises Langurs Macaques Gibbons



Compiled and Edited by
Sally Walker and Sanjay Molur

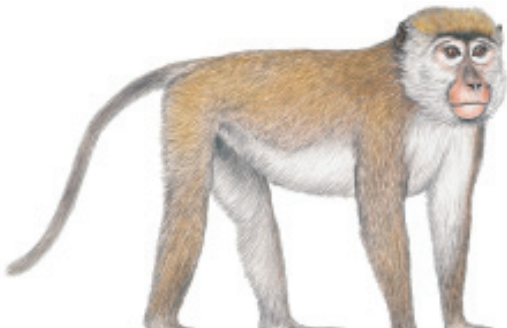
Illustrations by Stephen Nash



Guide to South Asian Primates for Teachers and Students of All Ages

**Sally Walker & Sanjay Molur
(Compilers & Editors)**

**Compiled from Status of South Asian Primates.
Report of the Conservation Assessment and Management
Plan CAMP Workshop 2003, recent notes on
primates taxonomy from several sources and
practical action suggestion for kids**





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Mr. Alan Mootnick for Gibbon text
Mr. Sanjay Molur for Macaque and Langur text

What's a monkey ?

Around the world the word "monkey" means the same thing to many people. People think of zoo monkeys, circus monkeys, comic book monkeys, you are a monkey, don't make a monkey out of me, monkey see-monkey do, and on and on . . .

Cartoon or generic jungle monkey illustrations often sport a long tail which they use to swing up-side-down. In real life, this is true of very few monkeys! Also, a cartoon monkey often has a big wide mouth and a sort of humorous look. Many people are misguided by these cartoons and may forever live without having any idea of the variety and diversity of this amazing group of mammals.

Just think for a moment of how "monkey" has influenced world culture ... monkeys occur in every tropical region of the world and even some temperate locales. They are generally popular animals, particularly with children. They appear in fables, tales, novels, stories, movies, colouring books, scientific papers, advertisements, ... monkeys are everywhere.

The "monkey" we think of when we hear this word is the droll animal we have seen in movies and cartoons, and is the butt of jokes and mischief as well as the perpetrator; they convey fun and mischief.

The word "monkey" doesn't really apply to all of the species that might be called "monkey" casually. The only word that applies to *all* of these kinds of animals is "primate". There are two kinds of primates: human primates and non-human primates. Both are sometimes called "monkeys" but for very different reasons!

There are New World primates (the Americas), Old World Primates (Africa and Asia) and apes. Humans belong to the ape group. Primates are an important group of animals ... for their closeness to human beings, for their evolutionary pattern and for the varied uses human beings make of them. They are one of the most popular exhibits in zoos because they are so much like "little people". Primates of all sizes have been and still are (usually wrongly) kept as pets. Many primates have been discovered to be in the bushmeat trade. They are considered a delicacy for food and also used as native medicine. Because of their similarity to human beings, non-human primates have been very popular as laboratory animals, often subjected to terrible treatment as experimental animals. Today animal welfare legislation in some countries dictates humane treatment for laboratory monkeys as well as other animals in all aspects of their lives in captivity. Certain species of small

monkeys have been trained to assist types of disabled people to fetch and carry items they require. Primates have played a role even in the space programme by their ability to reflect human-like reactions to weightlessness and other conditions of space travel.

Primates are creatures with characters unique to their group. These characters are similar across the different families of primates with the higher and more evolved primates like apes and humans having more versatile capabilities. One of the most important characters is the presence of a large brain. This allows primates to 'think' and reason. In addition, primates have opposable thumbs which help them grasp articles and therefore create and use tools better. Primates are the only group of animals that have their thumb facing their fingers, therefore they can hold on to objects more efficiently.

Primates also have eyes set in front which enables binary vision that can focus and perceive depth.



South Asian Primates, kinds of ... Gibbons, Lorises, Macaques & Langurs

Gibbons

Gibbons belong to the ape group. They are the smallest of the same group that includes gorillas, bonobos, orangutans, and chimpanzees, all rather large primates which occur in Africa (Gorillas, Bonobos and Chimps) and in Asia (Orangutans and Gibbons). Siamangs are also apes but are small bodied and occur in Asia like gibbons. They are without tails, like other apes.

(World's greatest acrobats - More about Gibbons by: Alan Mootnick, Director, Gibbon Conservation Center, Santa Clarita, California <http://gibboncenter.org> and at the beginning of the Gibbon section.)

Lorises

Lorises occur only in Asia and are among the smaller primates, such as African pottos and bushbabies, etc. There are two types of Loris: Slow loris, found in the northeastern part of South Asia as well as throughout Southeast Asia, and Slender loris which are found in South Asia in southern India and Sri Lanka. They are nocturnal and have special adaptations to help them find their way, hunt food and defend themselves, despite their small size.

(Friendly "ghosts" – the nocturnal lorises by: Anna Nekaris, Oxford Brookes University, and Helga Schulze, Ruhr-University Bochum, <http://www.loris-conservation.org/database/> and also at the beginning of the Loris section of this book.)

Macaques

There are ten species and subspecies of macaques which occur in South Asia which range from small and slender to large and stocky body type. Their colouring varies from brown, black, cream, and light to dark grey. Some have beards or manes and some don't. Their tails vary from almost no tail to a longish tail.

Langurs

Long, looping tails are characteristic of langurs -- they are what make langurs langurs. Some of their tails loop forward and some backward. There are two kinds of langurs and within that 14 different types. We call these types, "species". Langurs come in all colours -- purple, gold, reddish, a range of tans, whitish, brown and black. Langurs are amazing in their ability to jump from branch to branch on their powerful hind legs.

THE IUCN 2001 RED LIST CATEGORIES, Ver. 3.1

EXTINCT (EX)

A taxon is Extinct when there is no reasonable doubt that the last individual has died. A taxon is presumed Extinct when exhaustive surveys in known and/or expected habitat, at appropriate times (diurnal, seasonal, annual), throughout its historic range have failed to record an individual. Surveys should be over a time frame appropriate to the taxon's life cycle and life form.

EXTINCT IN THE WILD (EW)

A taxon is Extinct in the Wild when it is known only to survive in cultivation, in captivity or as a naturalized population (or populations) well outside the past range. A taxon is presumed Extinct in the Wild when exhaustive surveys in known and/or expected habitat, at appropriate times (diurnal, seasonal, annual), throughout its historic range have failed to record an individual. Surveys should be over a time frame appropriate to the taxon's life cycle and life form.

CRITICALLY ENDANGERED (CR)

A taxon is Critically Endangered when the best available evidence indicates that it meets any of the criteria A to E for Critically Endangered, and it is therefore considered to be facing an extremely high risk of extinction in the wild.

ENDANGERED (EN)

A taxon is Endangered when the best available evidence indicates that it meets any of the criteria A to E for Endangered, and it is therefore considered to be facing a very high risk of extinction in the wild.

VULNERABLE (VU)

A taxon is Vulnerable when the best available evidence indicates that it meets any of the criteria A to E for Vulnerable, and it is therefore considered to be facing a high risk of extinction in the wild.

NEAR THREATENED (NT)

A taxon is Near Threatened when it has been evaluated against the criteria but does not qualify for Critically Endangered, Endangered or Vulnerable now, but is close to qualifying for or is likely to qualify for a threatened category in the near future.

LEAST CONCERN (LC)

A taxon is Least Concern when it has been evaluated against the criteria and does not qualify for Critically Endangered, Endangered, Vulnerable or Near Threatened. Widespread and abundant taxa are included in this category.

DATA DEFICIENT (DD)

A taxon is Data Deficient when there is inadequate information to make a direct, or indirect, assessment of its risk of extinction based on its distribution and/or population status. A taxon in this category may be well studied, and its biology well known, but appropriate data on abundance and/or distribution are lacking. Data Deficient is therefore not a category of threat. Listing of taxa in this category indicates that more information is required and acknowledges the possibility that future research will show that threatened classification is appropriate. It is important to make positive use of whatever data are available. In many cases great care should be exercised in choosing between DD and a threatened status. If the range of a taxon is suspected to be relatively circumscribed, and a considerable period of time has elapsed since the last record of the taxon, threatened status may well be justified.

NOT EVALUATED (NE)

A taxon is Not Evaluated when it has not yet been evaluated against the criteria.

For more details on the IUCN categories, visit www.redlist.org

Gibbons

Alan Mootnick, Director, Gibbon Conservation Center, Santa Clarita, California

Gibbons, of the Family Hylobatidae, are the smallest of the five ape species. Apes are known for having a much larger brain than a monkey of the same weight, having longer arms than legs, and for the placement of their scapular, which allows apes to be true brachiators.



Depending on the species, an adult gibbon weighs between 6 and 22 Kilos. They are the only nonhuman primate that naturally walks upright, and does not need to rely on its hands to walk. When standing, some gibbon species are as tall as 95 centimeters. Because gibbons' arms are approximately 1.5 times longer than their legs, their arms can act as pendulums when swinging (brachiating) through the forest canopy. From a hanging position, they are able to pull themselves 4 meters horizontally to the next branch, and once a gibbon's momentum is created, it is able to brachiate at speeds of 40 kilometers per hour, with leaps of 15 meters in a horizontal plane. They are the only nonhuman primate that can pull their body in an upwards motion during brachiation. Because of all this, they are known as the world's greatest acrobats.

The name gibbon could be derived from the Latin word, "gibbus", meaning hump or hunchback, which is a typical sitting posture of a gibbon, or from an old Chaldic word meaning ape.

The gibbon and orangutan are the only apes native to the Asian forests. The orangutan is only found in Southeast Asia, whereas the gibbon inhabits the tropical and semi-deciduous forests of South, East, and Southeast Asia. Gibbons are distributed from Northeast India and Bangladesh eastward to Yunnan China, Vietnam, Cambodia, Laos, Thailand, and south to the Malaysian Peninsula, Sumatra, Borneo, and Java.

Gibbons are characterized by long-term pair bonding. The gibbons' territorial vocalization can be heard up to 2 kilometers, which helps define their boundaries to neighbouring gibbons. A gibbon family consists of an adult male and female, and from 1 to 4 offspring.

Once the offspring are sexually mature, they leave their family group to establish their own territory. The gibbons' long, razor sharp canines assists them in territorial defense, in holding fruit in their mouth when traveling through the forest canopy, and opening tough-skinned fruits. Over the years, numerous scientists have studied gibbon behavior in the Asian forests, but because of the gibbons' elusive nature, they are not easily observed. Understanding more about this fascinating primate gives us better insight into our ecosystems. Since gibbons eat an abundance of fruit, and require up to 200 hectares of forest for their family to survive, the gibbon aids with seed dispersal in the regeneration of new trees.

Gibbons are recognized as belonging to four genera and 15 species. Some gibbon species go through coat colour changes during infancy and before adulthood. All gibbons are recognized as endangered, and the rarest primate in the wild is one of the gibbon species, *Nomascus nasutus hainanus*. This species is found on the island of Hainan China, with only 17 individuals surviving. Depending on which country a gibbon lives in, their demise is due to: loss of habitat by forest fires and logging, collection of wood for cooking, capture for the pet trade, medicinal purposes, use as a food source, and, in some cases, to obtain the bones from their forearms for chop sticks. Only infant gibbons are desirable in the pet trade. Once a captive gibbon is an adult, it is not manageable. In order to obtain an infant gibbon from the forest, a poacher shoots the mother, and if the infant survives the fall from the forest canopy, the infant will end up in a marketplace waiting for someone to purchase it. Generally the infant gibbon is malnourished during its time away from its family, and rarely survives to maturity. With the rapid decrease of the forests worldwide, gibbons suffer from this loss. The gibbons' vocalizations are the sounds of the forest, and when the forest vanishes, so will their territorial call.

What's in a name ? Before 1982 there were 3 subgenera of gibbon, and 1 genus, *Hylobates*. In 1983 when scientists learned that hoolock gibbons had 38 chromosomes they place the hoolock gibbon its own subgenus, *Bunopithecus*. In 2005 scientist felt that there were enough differences between the four subgenera of gibbons, and elevated them to four genera, and at that time decided to rename the genus for the hoolock gibbon to *Hoolock*.

The Western Hoolock Gibbon has been listed by the Primate Specialist Group of the World Conservation Union as one of the 25 most endangered primates in the world in the 2007-8 listing.

Hoolock hoolock

Western Hoolock Gibbon

Family: Hylobatidae

Status: **ENDANGERED** IN SOUTH ASIA

Common names:

Assamese: Holou bandar; **Bengali:** Ulluk

Bilaspuri: Bonmanush; **Bodo:** Hulu makhra

Garo: Heru, Huru; **Hindi:** Uluk; **Karbi:** Jambli, Kinghoiduk; **Khasi:** Hulu, Hulaing; **Manipuri:** Yommu; **Mizo:** Hahuk; **Nepali:** Bon Manchhe

Rai: Sokpha; **Rankhol:** Saha; **Riang:** Hulao

Rongmi: Paang; **Rukni:** Hoolau;

English: Western Hoolock Gibbon, Hoolock Gibbon



Habit: Terrestrial, arboreal, brachiator, frugivorous, diurnal, monogamous, territorial.

Habitat: Tropical forests of different types.

Niche: Middle, upper/ top canopy dweller.

Diet: Ficus leaves, fruits, small birds, reptiles, insects.

Elevation: 10-1,400m.

Habitat status: Decreasing in area by about one third in last 10 years because of habitat loss and encroachment. Decrease in quality of habitat also - loss of fruiting & sleeping trees and increase in canopy gaps.

Distribution: Bangladesh, India, Myanmar

Total Population: About 3000 in South Asia.

Threats to its survival: Habitat loss and fragmentation, logging, firewood collection, *jhuming*, charcoal production, human settlement, roads, dams, etc., hunting for food, zoos, pets, traditional medicine, accidental mortality.

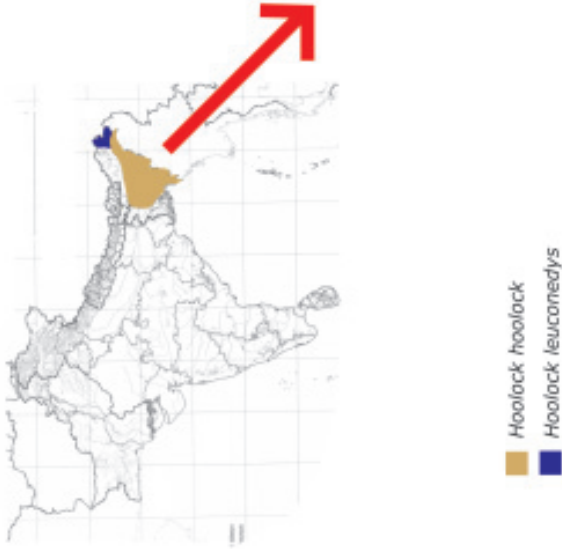
Trade of animal or parts: Widespread trade for blood, bones, fur, meat for food and medicine & live animals for zoos and as pets.

Wildlife legislation: **Bangladesh:** Schedule III, Bangladesh Wildlife (Preservation) (Amendment) Act, 1974. **India:** Schedule I, Part I, Indian Wildlife (Protection) Act, 1972 amended up to 2002.

What you can do to save Western Hoolock Gibbon:

- Do **not** request your zoo director to get them.
- Don't keep as pets or admire others who do so.
- Support laws which set aside large natural areas for animals or ask your family to do so.

Hoolock Gibbons in South Asia



Hoolock leuconedys

Eastern Hoolock Gibbon

Family: Hylobatidae

Status: DATA DEFICIENT IN SOUTH ASIA

Common names:

Rongmi: Paang; **Rukni:** Hoolau;

English: Eastern Hoolock Gibbon, Hoolock Gibbon

Habit: Terrestrial, arboreal, brachiator, frugivorous monogamous, territorial.

Habitat: Tropical forests of different types.

Niche: Middle, upper/ top canopy dweller.

Diet: Ficus leaves, fruits, small birds, reptiles, insects

Elevation: Below 1,400m.

Habitat status: More stable than Western Hoolock Gibbon habitat.

Distribution: China, India, Myanmar.

Total Population: Not known.

Threats to its survival: Not known.

Trade of animal or parts: Marginal trade.

Wildlife legislation: **India:** Schedule I, Part I, Indian Wildlife (Protection) Act, 1972 amended up to 2002.

What you can do to save Western Hoolock Gibbon:

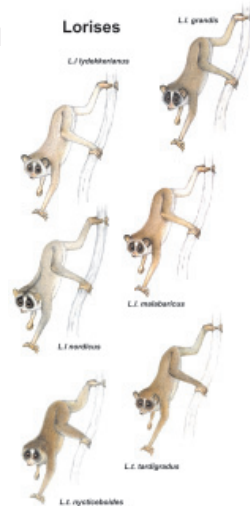
- Do ***not*** request your zoo director to get them.
- Don't keep as pets or admire others who do so.
- Support laws which set aside large natural areas for animals or ask your family to do so.



Lorises

Anna Nekaris, Oxford Brookes University, and Helga Schulze, Ruhr-University Bochum
Lorises (subfamily Lorisinae) are small nocturnal Asian primates. Together with the very similar-looking African pottos (subfamily Perodicticinae) and the African bushbabies (subfamily Galaginae) they represent the family Lorisidae.

Lorises and the Lemurs of Madagascar are closely related in a tribe called Strepsirhines. This tribe evolved separately from other primates about 80 to 90 million years ago. Member of Strepsirhines are different from other primates in having a "toilet claw" on the second toe of the foot, a specialized toothcomb, good sense of smell, the prominent nose, moist skin, scent glands on different parts of the body and very importantly, a reflecting eye background for good night vision.



The Asian lorises are tailless climbers who never jump; instead they survive with caution and a good knowledge of their environment, with some species hiding or staying motionless than relying on flight when feeling threatened. Other species, however, are swifter, and acrobatic locomotion and knowledge of their environment allows them even to give palm civets a run for their money. W. W. A. Phillips (1931) wrote the perfect characterisation of a loris: "Wonderfully agile and absolutely noiseless he arrives like a fleeting shadow and departs again in ghost-like silence ...". If attacked, however, lorises are also well able to defend themselves with growling, fierce bites which may have a toxic effect, and with a sort of cobra mimicry.

The name "loris" may be derived from the Dutch word "loeris", which means "clown", or from the dutch word "loris" meaning "simpleton" or "booby". In fact the typical camouflage behaviour of lorises, staying motionless when frightened, has led to the erroneous opinion that they are stupid, sloth-like creatures.

Asian lorises are arboreal. They inhabit forests and scrub, but also walk longer distances on the ground when necessary, at which time they are very vulnerable. Unlike the Malagasy lemurs they are fairly uniform in outer appearance, lacking a long tail or conspicuous hair tufts. Their fore- and hindlimbs are almost equal in length as compared to the short arms and long legs of typical jumpers; lorises are adapted to quadrupedal walking and

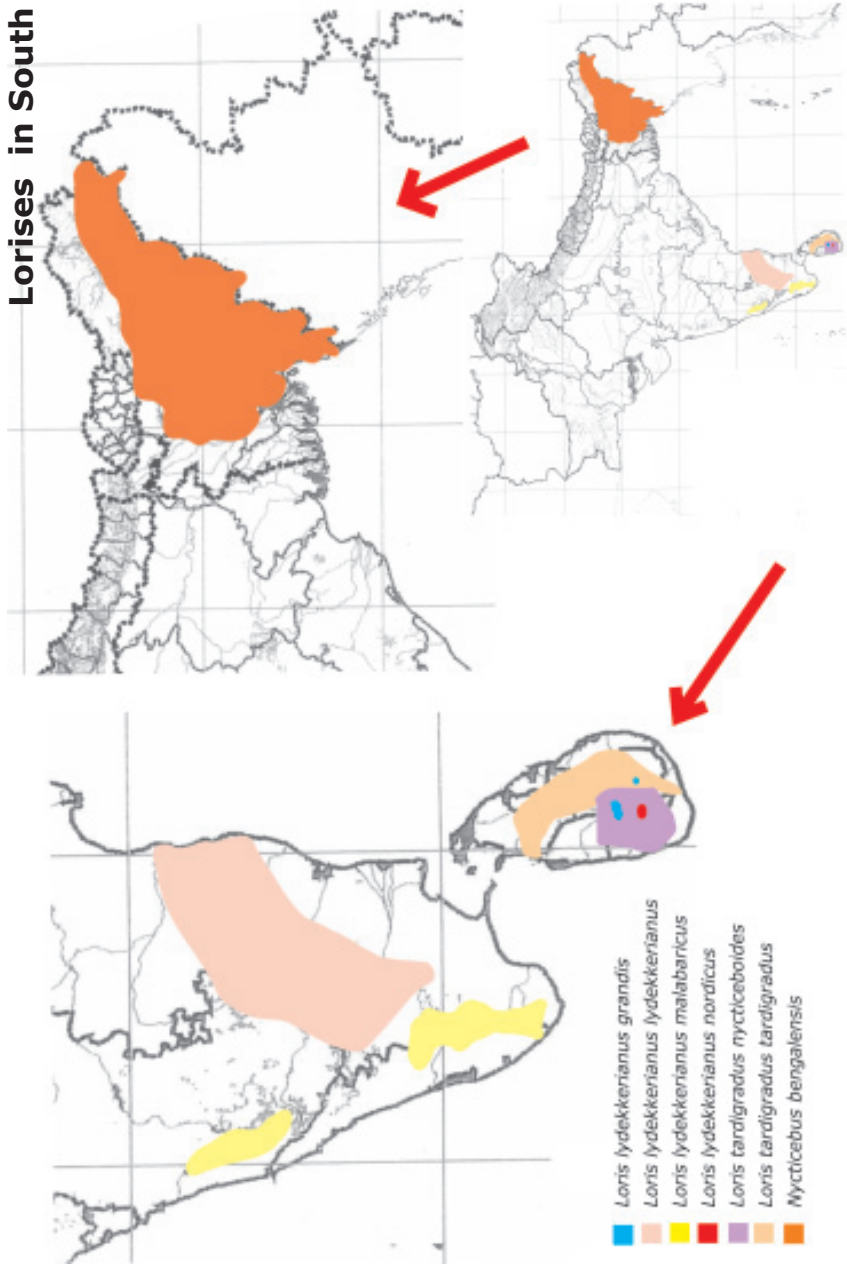
climbing locomotion. The species, however, differ in size (from about 130 g to 2 kg) and show some variation of fur colour patterns such as dorsal stripe and facial markings. The strong hands and feet provide a safe grip on branches, and particularly in slender lorises the long thin limbs allow bridging over gaps between thin branches. Specialized blood vessel systems in the limbs, the *retia mirabilia*, add to the good climbing abilities.

The taxonomy of lorises has changed in the past years. There are two genera, the smaller slender lorises, genus *Loris*, of South India and Sri Lanka with two currently recognised species, and the larger slow lorises, genus *Nycticebus*, with presently five species distinguished, with a distribution from Northeast India to southern China, Borneo and the Philippine Tawitawi archipelago. In some forms like *Nycticebus pygmaeus*, the pygmy or lesser slow loris, seasonal change of fur colour and body weight contributed to a somewhat erroneous taxonomy. Numerous biogeographic boundaries across the range of lorises have promoted speciation in sympatric monkey and gibbon taxa; once these animals are studied in more detail, it would not be surprising to uncover a wealth of additional species.

Paucity in knowledge of lorises also extends to their ecology. Slow lorises studied so far are more or less omnivorous, eating for instance insects, small mammals and plant material such as fruits, nectar and gum. Pygmy lorises rely on significantly less fruit, and both species of slender loris are almost exclusively faunivorous. Slender lorises are much more gregarious than usually described in older literature whereas field studies in one species of slow loris from Malaysia showed a dispersed monogamous social organisation. Vocalization includes a variety of whistles, squeaks, growling and rhythmic calls, serving as contact calls, territorial defense or indicating aggressive mood. Red slender lorises exhibit the surprising ability to produce vocal duets. The infants, usually singletons or twins, may be permanently clinging to the mother's belly for several weeks after birth (in slender lorises) or may be "parked" and left alone while the mother forages (more common in slow lorises).

Two slender loris forms have meanwhile been included in the list of the World's Top 25 Most Endangered Primates. Survey data for most forms are still lacking, besides habitat destruction the illegal trade with poached lorises sold as pets or food, or with loris products for local traditional medicine certainly contributes to rapid population decline in spite of legal protection. In many areas where lorises were known to occur they are meanwhile gone. Better law enforcement would be necessary, and rescue facilities are needed for confiscations.

Lorises in South Asia



Loris lydekkerianus grandis

Highland Slender Loris

Subspecies of *Loris lydekkerianus*

Family: Lorisidae

Status: **ENDANGERED**

Common names:

Sinhala: Kalu Unahapuluwa, Unahapuluwa;

Tamil: Kadu-papa, Thevaangu;

English: Grey Slender Loris, Highland Slender Loris



Habit: Nocturnal, arboreal, solitary, insectivorous, frugivorous, carnivorous (small lizards, eggs etc.).

Habitat: Tropical hill forest.

Niche: Shrubs, trees.

Diet: Small lizards, eggs, insects and fruits.

Elevation: 600-1200m.

Habitat status: Decreasing in area by over half in last 50 years. Decrease in quality due to fragmentation, loss of ecologically important forests and human encroachment.

Distribution: Endemic to Sri Lanka.

Total Population: Not known.

Threats to its survival: Clear-cutting, deliberate fires, trade, habitat loss by use of chemicals in agriculture, tourism.

Trade of animal or parts: Local (commercial) trade for eyes for folk medicine and meat for food.

Wildlife legislation: Protected under the Fauna and Flora Protection Ordinance Act No. 2, 1937 and subsequent amendments including Act No. 49, 1993 but at the species level.

What you can do to save Highland Slender Loris:

- Become an advocate for Sri Lankan wildlife in general and Highland Slender Loris in particular.
- Tell your parents and friends that no other country has Highland Slender Loris; it is unique.
- Refuse to visit the localities of Highland Slender Loris so that you don't disturb these shy animals.

Loris lydekkerianus lydekkerianus

Mysore Slender Loris

Subspecies of *Loris lydekkerianus*

Family: Lorisidae

Status: NEAR THREATENED

Common names:

Hindi: Lajivanti;

Kannada: Advimanushya, Kadupapa;

Malayalam: Kutti Thevangu;

Tamil: Thevaangu; **Telugu:** Devanga Pilli;

English: Gray Slender Loris, Mysore, Slender Loris, Slender Loris



Habit: Nocturnal, arboreal, insectivorous, usually solitary.

Habitat: Dry deciduous forest and scrub jungles.

Niche: Tree branches and hollows.

Diet: Feeds on small insects, lizards, fruits etc.

Elevation: Up to 900m.

Habitat status: Fragmented.

Distribution: Endemic to India.

Total Population: Not known.

Threats to its survival: Hunting, traditional medicine, road kills, biomedical research, habitat loss and taboos.

Trade of animal or parts: Local and commercial trade for eyes and as live animals for medicine, pet, zoos, travelling menageries, and research. Trade for medicine is a major threat.

Wildlife legislation: Schedule I, Part I, Indian Wildlife (Protection) Act, 1972 amended up to 2002.

What you can do to save Mysore Slender Loris:

- Don't buy them for pets.
- Don't collect them if you see them in the forest.
- Do treat your forest areas with respect.
- Do tell others about the importance of saving species and their habitats.

Loris lydekkerianus malabaricus

Malabar Slender Loris

Subspecies of *Loris lydekkerianus*

Family: Lorisidae

Status: NEAR THREATENED

Common names:

Kannada: Kadupapa; **Malayalam:** Kutti Thevangu; **Tamil:** Thevaangu;

English: Gray Slender Loris, Malabar Slender Loris



Habit: Nocturnal, arboreal, insectivorous, usually solitary.

Habitat: Moist deciduous, teak plantations, semi-evergreen forests.

Niche: Tree branches and hollows.

Diet: Feeds on small insects, lizards, fruits, etc.

Elevation: 50-1000m.

Habitat status: Declining due to loss and degradation.

Distribution: Endemic to India.

Total Population: Not known.

Threats to its survival: Hunting as a taboo, trade, biomedical and laboratory research, habitat loss.

Trade of animal or parts: Local, commercial and domestic trade for eyes, fur/skin, for medicinal purposes and live animal trade as pets, for zoos and for road shows.

Wildlife legislation: Schedule I, Part I, Indian Wildlife (Protection) Act, 1972 amended up to 2002.

What you can do to save Malabar Slender Loris:

- Become a wildlife biologist or manager - study its taxonomy & ecology and protect its habitat.
- Don't collect them or buy them from traders.
- Treat their forests with respect and caring.
- Teach your friends and family about them.

What you can do for fun: see how many differences you can find in all the different subspecies of Slender Loris.

Loris lydekkerianus nordicus

Dry Zone Slender Loris

Subspecies of *Loris lydekkerianus*

Family: Lorisidae

Status: **ENDANGERED**

Common names:

Sinhalese: Unahapuluwa;

Tamil: Thevaangu;

English: Dry Zone Slender Loris,
Northern Slender Loris, Slender Loris

Habit: Arboreal, nocturnal, insectivorous,
frugivorous, carnivorous.

Habitat: Tropical dry evergreen forest,
moist forest.

Niche: Shrubs, trees.

Diet: Small lizards, eggs, fruits, insects etc.

Elevation: Up to 350m in lowland dry zone of Sri Lanka.

Habitat status: Decreasing in area over half last 40 years; decrease in habitat quality due to deforestation, fragmentation, etc.

Distribution: Endemic to Sri Lanka.

Total Population: Not known.

Threats to its survival: Hunting for folk medicine and habitat loss. Stable in the northern province due to war & fear of entering that area. The forest is fairly intact but with the cessation of warfare in 2002 these northern forests areas may come under greater threat.

Trade of animal or parts: Local and commercial trade for eyes and meat for food and as an aphrodisiac.

Wildlife legislation: Protected under the Fauna and Flora Protection Ordinance Act No. 2, 1937 and subsequent amendments including Act No. 49, 1993 at the species level.

What you can do to save Dry Zone Slender Loris:

- Join a movement or action group which aims to save forests
- Ask your government representative to support a survey of northern province to see if human disturbance has increased since 2002.
- Draw a picture of Loris in a tree; make a poster for conservation of Loris and display it.

For fun:

Learn all scientific names of all loris and see how fast you can say them.



Loris tardigradus nycticeboides

Montane Slender Loris

Subspecies of *Loris tardigradus*

Family: Lorisidae

Status: **ENDANGERED**

Common names:

Sinhalese: Unahapuluwa;

Tamil: Thevaangu;

English: Highland Slender Loris,
Horton Plains Slender Loris,
Montane Slender Loris

Habit: Nocturnal, arboreal, solitary,
carnivorous.

Habitat: Tropical montane rainforest/
moist forest.

Niche: Shrubs, trees.

Diet: Small lizards, eggs, fruits, insects, etc.

Elevation: 1650-2000m.

Habitat status: Decreasing in area of over 80 percent in 200 years and is predicted to decline by over 10 percent in the next 5 years due to agricultural land use. Decrease in quality due to deforestation, habitat degradation.

Distribution: Endemic to Sri Lanka.

Total Population: Not known.

Threats to its survival: Land and water pollution, habitat loss due to agriculture, dairy husbandry, and vegetable cultivation.

Trade of animal or parts: Local and commercial trade for eyes and meat by tea plantation workers. Possible village level trade for folk medicine.

Wildlife legislation: Protected under the Fauna and Flora Protection Ordinance Act No. 2, 1937 and subsequent amendments including Act No. 49, 1993 at the species level.

What you can do to save Highland Slender Loris:

- Learn all you can about forests and their ecology.
- Think of becoming a wildlife professional.
- Think of ways to educate local people to refrain from using parts of threatened animals for medicines.

What you can do for fun:

Find the major difference between this and other Slender loris?



Loris tardigradus tardigradus

Red Slender Loris

Subspecies of *Loris tardigradus*

Family: Lorisidae

Status: **ENDANGERED**

Common names:

Sinhalese: Unahapuluwa;

Tamil: Thevaangu;

English: Red Slender Loris, Slender Loris



Habit: Arboreal, nocturnal, solitary, insectivorous, frugivorous, carnivorous.

Habitat: Tropical rain, swampy coastal and evergreen forests, wet zone lowland forest.

Niche: Shrubs, trees.

Diet: Small lizards, eggs, fruits, insects, etc.

Elevation: Up to 700m.

Habitat status: Decreased of over half area last 40 years and continuing. Decrease in quality due to loss of ecologically critical forest and habitat loss due to urbanisation. As large home gardens and small estates are urbanized, this taxon is deprived of refuges.

Distribution: Endemic to Sri Lanka.

Total Population: Not known.

Threats to its survival: Deforestation due to urbanisation.

Trade of animal or parts: Local, domestic, commercial trade for meat.

Wildlife legislation: Protected under the Fauna and Flora Protection Ordinance Act No. 2, 1937 and subsequent amendments including Act No. 49, 1993 at the species level.

What you can do to save Red Slender Loris:

- Become an advocate for Tropical Evergreen Forests.
- Learn how to explain to all ages the importance of these forests and every species which lives in them.
- Try to get your parents to develop a large home garden if you live in a rural or semi-rural area and find out how to attract Loris.

What you can do for fun:

See the picture and explain why the animal is called "Red" Slender Loris.

Nycticebus bengalensis

Slow Loris

Family: Lorisidae

Status: DATA DEFICIENT IN SOUTH ASIA

Common names:

Assamese: Lajuki bandar; **Bengali:** Lajiwati bandar; **Hindi:** Sharimindi billi; **Nepali:** Lajbarti bandar; **English:** Bengal Loris, Bengal Slow Loris, Northern Slow Loris, Slow Loris

Habit: Nocturnal, arboreal.

Habitat: Tropical evergreen rain forest, semi-evergreen forest, moist deciduous forest.

Niche: Upper and middle canopy dweller.

Diet: Fruits, berries, insects, small birds and reptiles.

Elevation: Up to 1,300m.

Habitat status: Decrease in area and quality due to encroachment, tree-felling and *jhuming*.

Distribution: Bangladesh, India, Myanmar, Cambodia, Laos, Thailand, Vietnam, China

Total Population: Not known.

Threats to its survival: Fisheries, habitat loss; hunting and trade for food, traditional medicine, sport; accidental mortality, trapping, human interference, predators.

Trade of animal or parts: Local trade for meat, food and medicine and live animal as pets.

Wildlife legislation: **Bangladesh:** Schedule III, Bangladesh Wildlife (Preservation) (Amendment) Act, 1974; **India:** Schedule I, Part I, Indian Wildlife (Protection) Act, 1972 amended up to 2002.

What you can do to save Slow Loris:

If you see it being sold anywhere report to your wildlife agency
Learn more about Slow Loris and set up an advocacy programme.

What you can do for fun:

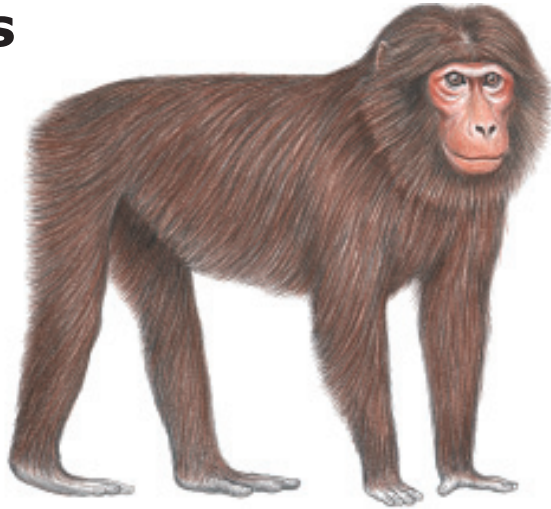
Compare the picture of Slow Loris to those of Slender loris (see following pages) and make a list of all the differences between these two species.



Macaques

Macaques mostly eat fruits and insects and occasionally small mammals and birds. All macaques are placed under one genus (grouping) called *Macaca*.

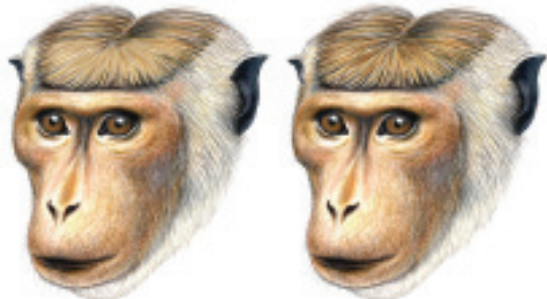
Some macaques are so closely related to one another that they look similar enough not to be considered different species.



Recently a "new" species of macaque was noted by some biologists, who described it and named it the Arunachal Macaque. Other biologists thought that this monkey was just a form of the Assamese Macaque, not a new species at all, and still think so! These two macaques look different in many ways, however, which is confirmed even by local people. So what is it? Time and more study will tell.

Another possibility is that they are two different populations. In taxonomy, and in conservation, species are sometimes (now more often) defined as those that are geographically separate units as well as morphologically or physically distinct, e.g., distinct in shape, size and colour. Distinct means (crudely) different from one another. This is called the "phylogenetic species concept" and is useful to distinguish unique populations and develop specific conservation recommendations and actions.

Macaques are more commonly found along road-sides, and close to human habitation, when humans have settled inside or close to their natural habitat.



Macaques



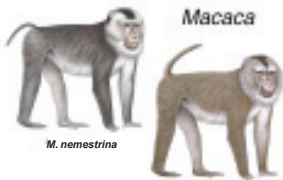
Macaca sinica



Macaca fascicularis aurea



Macaca fascicularis umbrosa



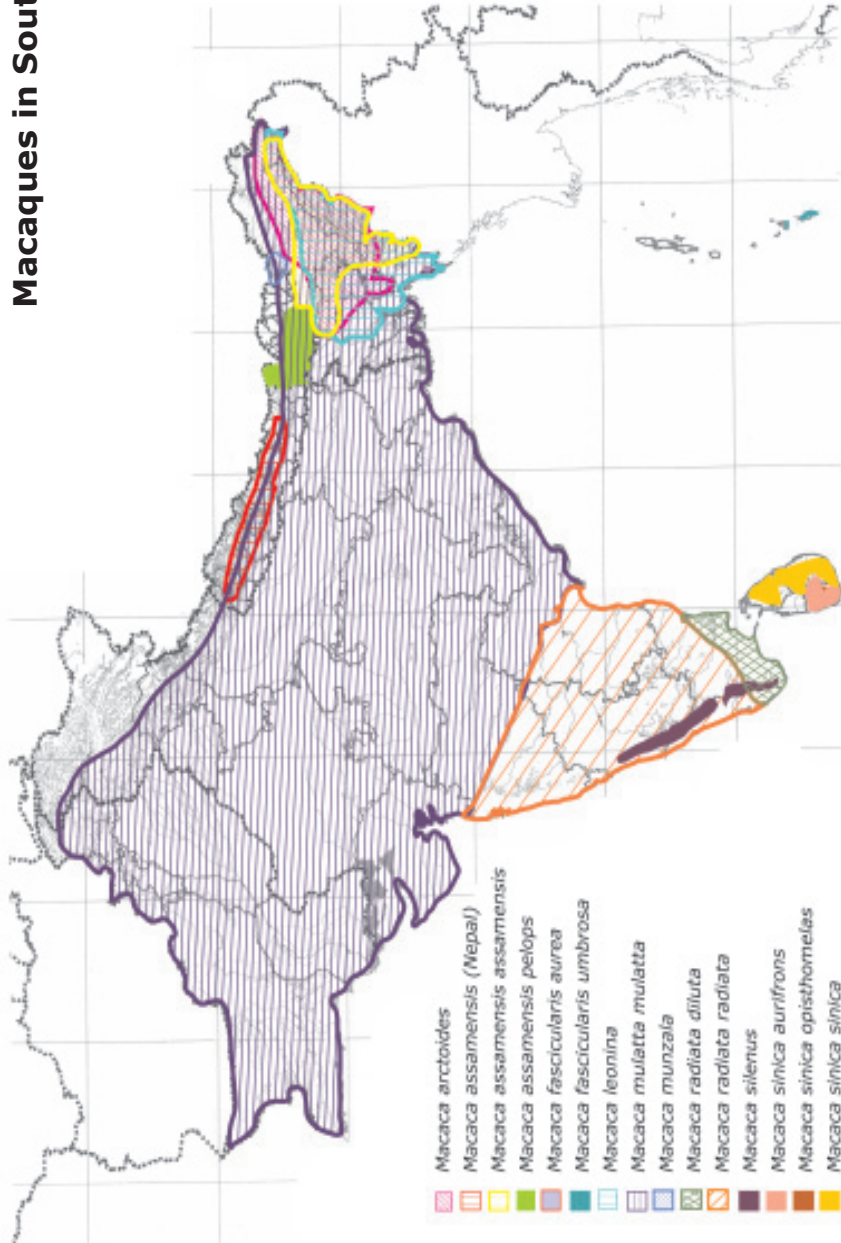
M. r. diluta



South Asia has 10 species of macaques or monkeys with the following unique characters.

Name	Body	Body colour	Tail	Beard	Crop/Head
Arunachal Macaque	Big & stocky	Brown	Short	Absent	Mild
Assamese Macaque	Stocky	Dark grey	Short/medium	Mild	Mild
Bonnet Macaque	Short & lean	Greyish-brown	Long	Absent	Centre parted
Lion-tailed Macaque	Short & lean	Black w. white mane	Longish	Present	Present
Long-tailed Macaque	Stout	Brownish-grey	Medium/long	Absent	Mild/absent
Pig-tailed Macaque	Big & stocky	Greyish-white/brown	Short	Present	Mild
Rhesus Macaque	Stocky	Brownish-grey	Medium	Absent	Absent
Stump-tailed Macaque	Stout	Dark brown	Very short	Present	Centre parted
Tibetan Macaque	Big & stocky	Dark grey	Short	Present	Present
Toque Macaque	Short & lean	Brownish/Creamish	Long	Absent	Centre parted

Macaques in South Asia



Macaca arctoides

Stump-tailed Macaque

Family: Cercopithecidae

Status: **CRITICALLY ENDANGERED**
IN SOUTH ASIA

Common names:

Assamese: Senduri bandar;

Bengali: Sinduri banar;

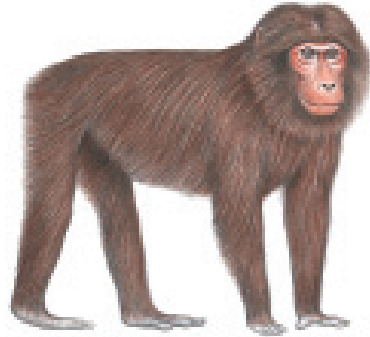
Garo: Makre-Khimdonza;

Hindi: Sinduri bandar;

Mizo: Zowng Hmalsen;

Naga: Chantee; **Nepali:** Linde bandar;

Riyang: Mukhraeka; **English:** Bear Macaque, Red-faced Stump-tailed Macaque, Stump-tailed Macaque



Habit: Terrestrial, arboreal, diurnal, omnivore.

Habitat: Tropical semi-evergreen forest, tropical wet evergreen forest, tropical moist deciduous forest.

Niche: Different strata of the forest.

Diet: Fruits, seeds, young leaves, flowers, buds, insects, birds and eggs.

Elevation: 50-1300m.

Habitat status: Twenty percent decrease in last decade. Decrease in quality due to habitat alteration and selective felling.

Distribution: Bangladesh?, India, Northern Myanmar, China south into West Malaysia, Thailand.

Total Population: Less than 250 in South Asia.

Threats to its survival: Selective logging, timber & firewood collection, roads, dams, power lines, fires, fragmentation, soil loss, hunting/trade for food, sport; traditional medicine, trapping deaths.

Trade of animal or parts: Local trade for bones, meat and as pets.

Wildlife legislation: India: Schedule II, Indian Wildlife (Protection) Act, 1972 amended up to 2002.

What you can do to save Stumped-tailed Macaque:

- Find ways of expressing the pity of losing a macaque with a unique characteristic such as a stumped tail.
- Critically endangered is a very alarming status; use the fact of its potential extinction to catch the interest of public and policy makers.

What you can do for fun :

Imagine how the Stump-tailed macaque might have lost its tail! Make up a fictional fable about "how the monkey lost its tail".

Macaca assamensis (Nepal Population)

Assamese Macaque

Family: Cercopithecidae

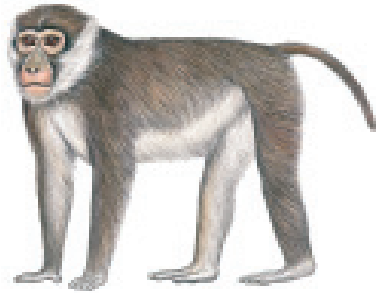
Status: **ENDANGERED**

Common names:

Nepali: Pahare bandar; **Rai:** Pupa;

Tamang: Thimnyau;

English: Assamese Macaque



Habit: Arboreal and terrestrial, omnivorous, diurnal, multi-male - multi-female group.

Habitat: Hill sal forest, mixed deciduous forest, temperate broadleaved forest, rocky outcrops along rivers.

Niche: Middle canopy.

Diet: Fruit, young leaves, insects, crops and mammals.

Elevation: 280-2336m.

Habitat status: Ten percent of area decreased in the last 10 years & will lost another over 10 percent area in the next 10 years due to habitat alteration because of selective logging, fodder, timber and firewood collection.

Distribution: Endemic to Nepal.

Total Population: Less than 1000.

Threats to its survival: Past threats: Grazing, shifting agriculture, firewood and charcoal production, selective logging, habitat loss, jhuming. Present and future threats: Fodder collection, landslide.

Trade of animal or parts: Not in trade.

Wildlife legislation: India: Department of National Parks and Wildlife Conservation Act, 1973.

What you can do to save Assamese Macaque:

Take up a career in primate studies and resolve the issue of identifying this Nepal population of Assamese Macaque.

What you can do for fun:

- Write up your reasons for why the Nepal population should be considered separate from the other subspecies of Assamese Macaques.

Macaca assamensis assamensis

Eastern Assamese Macaque

Subspecies of *Macaca assamensis*

Family: Cercopithecidae

Status: **ENDANGERED**
IN SOUTH ASIA

Common names:

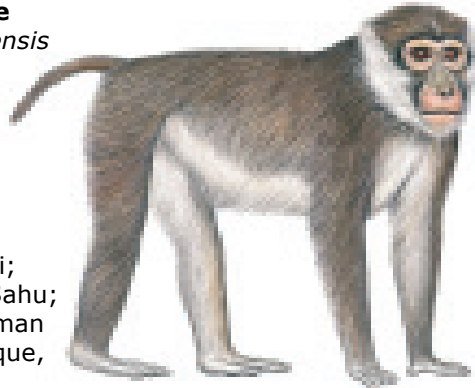
Assamese: Asomia molua;

Barman: Jongak; **Bhutia:** Poi;

Garo: Makre-dow; **Lepcha:** Sahu;

Mizo: Zwongpu; **Riyang:** Taiman

ukhra; **English:** Assam Macaque,
Eastern Assamese Macaque



Habit: Arboreal, diurnal.

Habitat: Tropical evergreen, subtropical evergreen forest, semi-evergreen broad-leaved forest.

Niche: Broad-leaved & semi evergreen & moist deciduous forest.

Diet: Fruit, young leaves, insects, crops and mammal prey.

Elevation: 50-1300m.

Habitat status: More than twenty percent decrease in last decade due to selective logging. Decrease in quality due to loss of fruiting trees, altered habitat, encroachment and habitat shrinkage.

Distribution: Bangladesh, India, Myanmar, Laos, Thailand, Vietnam, China.

Total Population: Less than 1000 in South Asia.

Threats to its survival: Selective logging, timber collection and firewood for charcoal production, fisheries, building roads, dams, power lines, deliberate fires, fragmentation, soil loss/erosion, hunting for sport, hunting and trade for food and traditional medicine, trapping deaths, invasive species, predators, hybridization.

Trade of animal or parts: Local trade for bones, meat for food and live animal as pets. Trade for meat is resulting in population decline.

Wildlife legislation: **Bangladesh:** Schedule III, Bangladesh Wildlife (Preservation) (Amendment) Act, 1974. **India:** Schedule II, Part I, Indian Wildlife (Protection) Act, 1972 amended up to 2002.

What you can do to help Eastern Assamese Macaque:

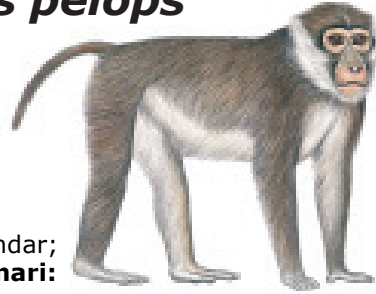
Make a poster showing how some people actually eat this species. Could the poster show the similarity between a big monkey and a small child when on a plate? Would that convey the message?

Macaca assamensis pelops

Western Assamese Macaque

Subspecies of *Macaca assamensis*

Family: Cercopithecidae



Status: **ENDANGERED**

Common names:

Bengali: Assame bandar, Pahari bandar;

Bhotia: Pio; **Lepcha:** Sahu; **Myanmari:**

Myauk-sar; **English:** Western

Assamese Macaque

Habit: Arboreal and terrestrial, omnivorous, diurnal.

Habitat: Broad leaved evergreen forest.

Niche: Middle and higher canopy.

Diet: Fruit, young leaves, insects, crops and mammals.

Elevation: 180-2270m.

Habitat status: Ten percent of area decreased in the last 6-7 years & will lost another over 10 percent area in the next 10 years due to deforestation, landslides etc. Quality loss due to loss of fruiting trees, habitat modification, etc.

Distribution: Bhutan, India.

Total Population: Less than 2500.

Threats to its survival: Past threats: hunting, expansion of human settlement, habitat shrinkage, jhuming. Present and future threats: agriculture, firewood and charcoal production, selective logging, intentional poisoning, accidental mortality, road kills, trapping, landslide, changing human attitudes, man-animal conflict.

Trade of animal or parts: Local - pets, domestic use bushmeat.

Wildlife legislation: India: Schedule II, Part I, Indian Wildlife (Protection) Act, 1972 amended up to 2002.

What you can do to save Western Assamese Macaque:

Choose a career in wildlife sciences

Educate people that all living creatures have a right to their space

Show your adult friends that problems of wildlife are man made.

What you can do for fun:

- List out all the differences you can find in subspecies of Assamese macaques.
- Find the difference between *Macaca assamensis assamensis* and *Macaca assamensis pelops*.

Macaca fascicularis aurea

Long-tailed Macaque

Subspecies of *Macaca fascicularis*

Family: Cercopithecidae



Status: **CRITICALLY ENDANGERED** IN SOUTH ASIA

Common names:

Bengali: Parailla Bandor;

English: Burmese Crab-eating Macaque, Burmese Long-tailed Macaque, Crab-eating Macaque, Long-tailed Macaque

Habit: Terrestrial, arboreal.

Habitat: Evergreen forests, coastal mangroves.

Niche: Ground and lower canopy.

Diet: Fruits, seeds, buds, leaves, other plant parts, insects, frogs, crabs.

Elevation: Up to 50m.

Habitat status: Decreasing by more than 80 percent in the last 10 years: over 40 percent more predicted in the next decade due to logging and commercial shrimp culture and in quality due to deforestation & land conversion for shrimp culture.

Distribution: Bangladesh, Myanmar.

Total Population: Less than 100 in Bangladesh.

Threats to its survival: Aquaculture, agriculture, mangrove removal, human settlement, deforestation, development activities and ship-building.

Trade of animal or parts: Not in trade.

Wildlife legislation: Schedule III, Bangladesh Wildlife (Protection) Act 1974.

What you can do to save Mainland Long-tailed Macaque:

You can talk about irony of this unique primate, which likes to eat crabs being extinguished because human beings like to eat shrimp! Become an advocate for Mangrove forests, those mysterious landforms.

What you can do for fun :

- Draw a group of crab-eating macaques eating crabs.
- Draw a crab-eating macaque being chased by a giant crab of the deepest lagoon! This is symbolic of man chasing it out of its forests for love of shrimp!

Macaca fascicularis umbrosa

Nicobar Long-tailed Macaque

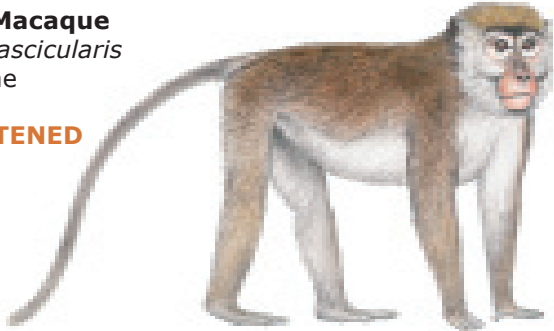
Subspecies of *Macaca fascicularis*

Family: Cercopithecidae

Status: NEAR THREATENED

Common names:

English: Crab-eating
Macaque, Long-tailed
Macaque, Nicobar
Long-tailed Macaque



Habit: Semi-terrestrial, arboreal, diurnal, omnivorous

Habitat: Mangroves, coastal forests predominantly dominated by *Pandanus* species

Niche: Tends to be arboreal in inland forests and terrestrial in coastal forests.

Diet: Fruits, seeds, buds, leaves, other plant parts, insects, frogs, crabs

Elevation: Up to 600m.

Habitat status: Stable in area due to increase in quality of habitat (Coconut plantations).

Distribution: Endemic to India (Nicobar Islands).

Total Population: Less than 5000.

Threats to its survival: Past threats: Human settlement, habitat loss. Present and future threats: Construction of roads on Katchal island and Great Nicobar Island, hunting.

Trade of animal or parts: Not known.

Wildlife legislation: Schedule I, Part I, Indian Wildlife (Protection) Act, 1972 amended up to 2002.

What you can do to save Nicobar Long-tailed Macaque:

First think of why the Nicobar crab-eating macaque is only Near Threatened and the Mainland crab-eating macaque is Critically Endangered. Could it have something to do with the Nicobar macaque being on stuck an isolated island and far away from the hurley burley of mainland threats?.

What you can do for fun :

- List the differences in the two subspecies of Crab-eating macaques.

Macaca leonina

Northern Pig-tailed Macaque

Family: Cercopithecidae

Status: **ENDANGERED** IN SOUTH ASIA

Common names:

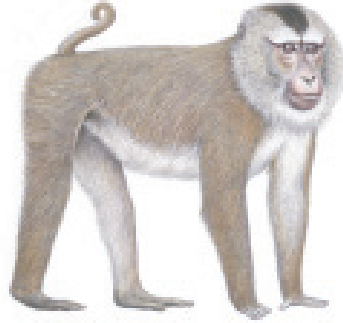
Assamese: Gahari nejia bandar;

Bengali: Baraholeji banar, Bengali (in Bangladesh): Chhotoleji banar;

Garo: Peko; **Mizo:** Zawangmuat;

Naga: Kangh; **Nepali:** Sungur puchero bandar; **Riyang:**

Stongbora; **English:** Burmese Pig-tailed Macaque, Long-haired Pig-tailed Macaque, Northern Pig-tailed Macaque



Habit: Predominantly arboreal, diurnal, frugivorous.

Habitat: Tropical semi-evergreen forest, tropical wet evergreen forest, tropical moist deciduous forest, coastal forest, swamp forest, montane forest.

Niche: Middle canopy.

Diet: Leaves, buds, flower, fruits, seeds, insects, fungus, nesting birds, termite eggs and larvae, and river crabs.

Elevation: 50-1700m.

Habitat status: Forty percent decline in 10 years; 20 percent more decline predicted in the next ten years due to habitat destruction. Loss of fruiting and sleeping trees, monoculture, plantation, selective felling and increase in canopy gap.

Distribution: Bangladesh, India, Myanmar, Thailand, Yunnan, China, Cambodia, Laos, Vietnam.

Total Population: Less than 5000 in South Asia.

Threats to its survival: Selective logging, firewood. charcoal production, fisheries, timber extraction, roads, dams, fragmentation, soil loss/erosion, deliberate fires, hunting/trade for sport, food, medicine cultural use, predators, habitat loss, jhuming, encroachment.

Trade of animal or parts: Local trade for bones, meat for food and medicine, and live animal for pets and zoos.

Wildlife legislation: **Bangladesh:** Schedule III, Bangladesh Wildlife (Preservation) (Amendment) Act, 1974. **India:** Schedule II, Indian Wildlife (Protection) Act, 1972 amended up to 2002

What you can do to save Northern Pig-tailed Macaque:

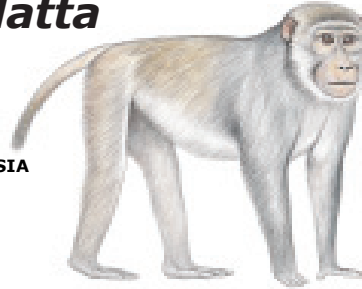
- Work for wildlife generally.
- Try and reduce the pressure on the natural world by living smaller, more simply and wasting nothing.

Macaca mulatta mulatta

Indian Rhesus Macaque

Subspecies of *Macaca mulatta*

Family: Cercopithecidae



Status: LEAST CONCERN IN SOUTH ASIA

Common names:

Bengali: Banar; **Hindi:** Bandar, Lal bandar, Lal mukh ka bandar, Lal mukhwala bandar; **Hindko:** Baojha

Marathi: Makad ; **Nepali:** Rato Bandar, Hajaria Bandar; **Oriya:** Mankad; **Pashto:** Shado, Beszoo; **Rai:** Pupa; **Telugu:** Kothi;

Urdu: Bandur; **English:** Indian Rhesus Macaque, Rhesus Monkey

Habit: Arboreal and terrestrial, diurnal, social, female biased ratio, multi male-multi female group, omnivorous.

Habitat: Temperate coniferous, moist and dry-deciduous forests, mangroves, scrub, rain-forest, cropland, human habitation, roadside, temples, open land, agricultural lands, mixed & bamboo forests.

Niche: Open-canopy forest, ground, forest fringe, human areas.

Diet: Fruits, seeds, leaves, gums, buds, grass, cloves, roots, bark resin and invertebrates.

Elevation: Up to 4,000m.

Habitat status: Stable in area and quality.

Distribution: Afghanistan, Bangladesh, Bhutan, India, Nepal, Pakistan, Myanmar, Thailand, Laos, Vietnam, China.

Total Population: Over 1,00,000.

Threats to its survival: Past threats: Hunting, trade, accidental mortality, road kills, trapping, ecological imbalance), habitat loss, forest fire. Present and future threats: Poisoning in Himachal Pradesh, human-animal conflict, wildfire.

Trade of animal or parts: Local trade of meat for food and whole animal for pets and road shows. Hunted for sustenance.

Wildlife legislation: **Bangladesh:** Schedule III, Bangladesh Wildlife (Preservation) (Amendment) Act, 1974; **India:** Schedule I, Part I, Indian Wildlife (Protection) Act, 1972 amended up to 2002; **Nepal:** National Pks and Wildlife Conservation Act, 1973 common species list.

What you can do to honour this Indian landmark, the Indian Rhesus Macaque:

- Create a sign or poster for your school, community center, protected area or local zoo explaining why wildlife is beneficial to your community.
- Learn the names of local animals or plants and create signs or booklets to teach others.

Macaca munzala

Arunachal Macaque

Family: Cercopithecidae

Status: **ENDANGERED**

Common names:

Arunachal Macaque

Habit: Terrestrial, diurnal.

Habitat: Degraded broadleaf forest, degraded open scrub forest, undisturbed oak forest, undisturbed conifer forest, agricultural

Niche: Broad-leaved & temperate forest.

Diet: Fruit, young leaves, insects, crops and mammal prey.

Elevation: 2000-3500m.

Habitat status: Decrease in quality due to loss of fruiting trees, altered habitat, encroachment and habitat shrinkage.

Distribution: India.

Total Population: Less than 600.

Threats to its survival: Hunting for food and traditional medicine, human-primate conflict.

Trade of animal or parts: Local trade for bones, meat for food and live animal as pets. Conflict deaths are resulting in population decline.

Wildlife legislation: Bangladesh: Not listed as it is a new species.

What you can do to help Eastern Assamese Macaque:

- Make a poster showing how some people actually eat this species. Could the poster show the similarity between a big monkey and a small child when on a plate? Would that convey the message?
- Show human-primate conflict and Do's and Don'ts of human behaviour around these macaques.



Macaca radiata diluta

Pale-bellied Bonnet Macaque

Subspecies of *Macaca radiata*

Family: Cercopithecidae

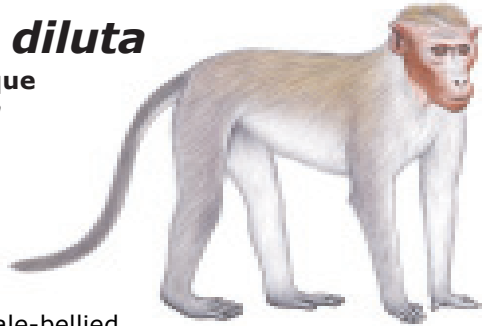
Status: LEAST CONCERN

Common names:

Malayalam: Vella Kurangu

Tamil: Kulla Kurangu

English: Bonnet Macaque, Pale-bellied Bonnet Macaque



Habit: Ubiquitous, diurnal, omnivorous, terrestrial.

Habitat: All forest types from scrub to evergreen, forest, plantations, agricultural lands, urban areas.

Niche: Terrestrial in low canopy vegetation, arboreal in high canopy vegetation.

Diet: Fruits, seeds, leaves, flowers, insects, lizards, frogs.

Elevation: Up to 2000m.

Habitat status: Not known. Decline predicted due to urbanization. Decrease in quality due to loss of fruiting trees and urbanization.

Distribution: Endemic to India.

Total Population: Less than 5000.

Threats to its survival: Past threats: Hunting, trade, research, habitat loss. Present threats: Road kills Future threats: Human interference.

Trade of animal or parts: Local trade live animals for research & road shows.

Wildlife legislation: Schedule II, Part I, Indian Wildlife (Protection) Act, 1972 amended up to 2002.

What you can do for the Pale-bellied Bonnet Macaque:

The Pale-bellied Bonnet Macaque has been assessed as Least Concern, which means it is in almost no danger of extinction. This subspecies is so widespread and so numerous that even these threats do not seem to have caused sufficient decline for alarm.

Do remember the American Passenger Pigeon and American Buffalo both of which literally move in the millions, now gone.

Don't take any species for granted. That's what you can do.

What you can do for fun :

Make a list of all the differences between all the kinds of Bonnet Macaques, not just morphological (physical) differences but differences in climatic zones, locality, status, etc.

Macaca radiata radiata

Dark-bellied Bonnet Macaque

Subspecies of *Macaca radiata*

Family: Cercopithecidae

Status: LEAST CONCERN

Common names:

Marathi: Makad

English: Bonnet Macaque,
Dark-bellied Bonnet Macaque



Habit: Diurnal, omnivorous, terrestrial.

Habitat: Ubiquitous. All forest types including scrub to evergreen forests, agricultural lands and urban areas.

Niche: Terrestrial in low canopy vegetation and arboreal in high canopy vegetation.

Diet: Fruits, seeds, leaves, flowers, insects, lizards and frogs.

Elevation: Up to 2600m.

Habitat status: Not known. Decrease in quality due to urbanization and loss of fruiting trees.

Distribution: Endemic to India.

Total Population: Over 1,50,000.

Threats to its survival: Past threats: Agriculture, hunting, trade, road kills. Present and future threats: Infrastructure, road-kills, research, pathogens/parasites, storms/flooding.

Trade of animal or parts: Domestic and commercial trade for research and road shows.

Wildlife legislation: Schedule II, Part I, Indian Wildlife (Protection) Act, 1972 amended up to 2002.

What you can do for Dark-bellied Bonnet Macaque:

This subspecies is "Least concern" so it doesn't need "saving", as such. However, Bonnet macaque is one of the primate species that may develop the habit of invading human habitations and creating mischief for human being. Actually, human beings often are the source of this problem because they do not dispose of garbage efficiently, or they feed monkeys, etc.

What you can do for fun :

Draw a poster with a message conveying the need to keep garbage covered. You could draw a cartoon of a monkey trying to get into a garbage bin that has been protected by vigilant householders. Draw the monkey looking frustrated and householders looking satisfied.

Macaca silenus

Lion-tailed Macaque

Family: Cercopithecidae

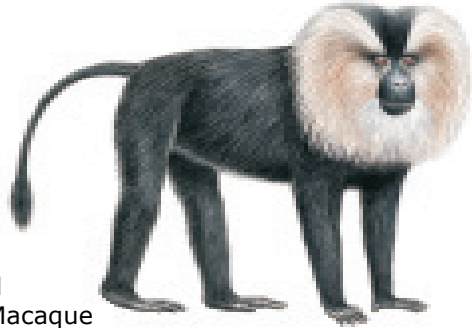
Status: **ENDANGERED**

Common names:

Kannada: Singaleeka

Malayalam / Tamil: Singavaal

kurangu; **English:** Lion-tailed Macaque



Habit: Arboreal, diurnal, frugivorous, insectivorous, usually in small groups

Habitat: Wet, evergreen forest.

Niche: Upper canopy.

Diet: Fruits, seeds, mushrooms, flowers, young birds, snails, giant squirrel infants.

Elevation: 100-1,800m.

Habitat status: Decrease in area due to encroachment, conversion of coffee plantations to tea, habitat degradation. Decrease in quality due to loss of fruiting trees, and canopy contiguity.

Distribution: Endemic to India.

Total Population: Around 3550.

Threats to its survival: Roads, dams, powerlines, deforestation, fragmentation, plantations, agriculture, mining, hunting for food, etc.

Trade of animal or parts: Local trade for whole animal for pets. The taxon is hunted for sustenance for food and also for medicine.

Wildlife legislation: Schedule I, Part I, Indian Wildlife (Protection) Act, 1972 amended up to 2002.

What you can do to save Lion-tailed Macaque:

- Start a writing campaign to the three Chief Wildlife Wardens of the three states which hold Lion-tailed macaque to implement recommendations of experts for this species (see LTM PHVA Report, ZOO/CBSG India, 1993).
- Encourage wealthy tea planters in or near LTM localities to make parts of their plantation more LTM-friendly, such as translocating some sturdy trees into those areas.
- Start an LTM drama club and conduct neighborhood and street dramas highlighting the sad history of this attractive leonine primate.

What you can do for fun :

Write a story or a drama about the Asiatic Lion and the Lion-tailed Macaque. They do not share the same locality so you could add a tiger to the story. It could be a fable with some wisdom thrown in.

Macaca sinica aurifrons

Wet Zone Toque Macaque

Subspecies of *Macaca sinica*

Family: Cercopithecidae

Status: **ENDANGERED**

Common names:

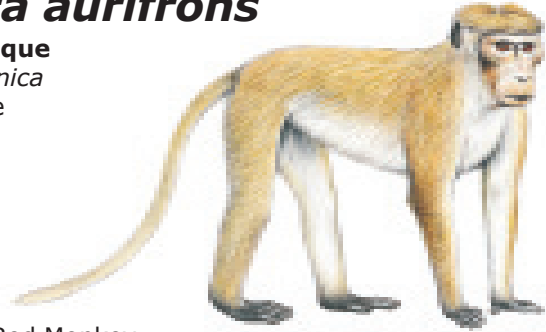
Sinhalese: Rilawa

Tamil: Sen Kurangu,

Siru Kurangu; **English:**

Dusky Toque Macaque, Red Monkey,

Toque Macaque, Wetzone Toque Macaque



Habit: Terrestrial, arboreal, diurnal, frugivorous, insectivorous.

Habitat: Lowland and midland tropical rain forest, wet zone lowland forests.

Niche: Terrestrial in low canopy vegetation and arboreal in high canopy vegetation.

Diet: Fruits, seeds other plant parts, reptiles, birds, mammals.

Elevation: Up to 1,200m.

Habitat status: Decreased in area by over 50 percent in the last 50 years or more and is predicted to decline due to habitat loss and human-animal conflict. Decrease in quality due to loss of ecologically critical forest, habitat loss due to urbanization and changes in land use.

Distribution: Endemic to Sri Lanka.

Total Population: Not known.

Threats to its survival: Deforestation and habitat loss, shooting, snaring and poisoning as this animal is considered a pest.

Trade of animal or parts: Not in trade.

Wildlife legislation: Endemic species not listed as a protected species by law in Sri Lanka.

What you can do to save Wet Zone Toque Macaque:

- Lobby very wealthy conservation-friendly people to convince them to purchase plantations and estates and encourages these Wet Zone Toque Macaques to take up residence.
- Lobby your government to protect it by law, since it is the only endemic species that is not protected. Teach people to minimize conflict with this Endangered species by changing their own bad habits in disposal of garbage, flagrant feeding of monkeys for sake of religion and for fun.

Macaca sinica opisthomelas

Hill Zone Toque Macaque

Subspecies of *Macaca sinica*

Family: Cercopithecidae

Status: **ENDANGERED**

Common names:

Sinhala: Riwala; **Tamil:** Sen Kurangu, Siru Kurangu

English: Hill Zone Toque Macaque, Montane Toque Monkey, Mountain Toque Monkey



Habit: Terrestrial, arboreal, diurnal, frugivorous, insectivorous.

Habitat: Montane tropical rain forest.

Niche: Terrestrial in low canopy vegetation and arboreal in high canopy vegetation.

Diet: Fruits, seeds, other plant parts, reptiles, birds and mammals.

Elevation: Over 1,800m.

Habitat status: Decreased in area by over 80 percent in last 200 years and predicted continue to decline. Decrease in quality due to habitat fragmentation, increased risk of human-animal conflict, habitat loss.

Distribution: Endemic to Sri Lanka.

Total Population: Not known.

Threats to its survival: Habitat loss due to agriculture (Coffee and tea plantation) in the past, fuel wood collection, vegetable plantations, encroachment, and animal husbandry at present.

Trade of animal or parts: Probably not in trade.

Wildlife legislation: Endemic species that is not protected by law in Sri Lanka. The absence of legal protection is particularly alarming for this highly endangered subspecies.

What you can do to save Hill Zone Toque Macaque:

Human-animal conflict being one of the threats to this Endangered species, you can conduct education campaigns to teach human beings how to minimize conflict by changing their own bad habits, such as

- Dispose of garbage in such a way that monkeys can't get at it; this will discourage them from coming into human habitations
- Do not feed monkeys at any public place, even temples, sacred groves, gardens, etc. and don't permit children in your care to do so.
- Keep watch on open windows and doors near dining areas where food smells will tempt the animals to come in.

Macaca sinica sinica

Dry Zone Toque Macaque

Subspecies of *Macaca sinica*

Family: Cercopithecidae

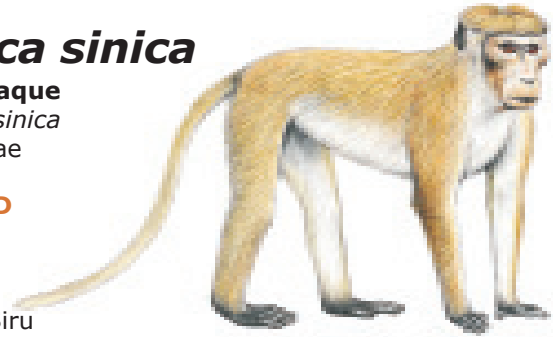
Status: **ENDANGERED**

Common names:

Sinhalese: Riwala;

Tamil: Sen Kurangu, Siru

Kurangu; **English:** Toque Macaque,
Dry Zone Toque Macaque



Habit: Diurnal, terrestrial, arboreal, frugivorous, insectivorous (requires access to free water).

Habitat: Dry evergreen forest near water.

Niche: Terrestrial in low canopy vegetation and arboreal in high canopy vegetation.

Diet: Fruits, seeds, other plant parts, reptiles, birds and mammals

Elevation: Up to 500m.

Habitat status: Decreased in area of over 50 percent in the last 40 years or more and is predicted to decline by over 20 percent in the next 5 years due to habitat loss and land use pattern changes.

Distribution: Endemic to Sri Lanka.

Total Population: Not known.

Threats to its survival: Mortality by poisoning and habitat loss. According to government data, during 42 years (1956-1993), the country has lost 50 percent of its forest cover, but the loss is greater than 50 percent if habitat changes during the last 10 years (1994-2003) is included. The Mahaweli Development Scheme has destroyed much dry-zone forest habitat. There is a close relationship between loss of critical habitat and population.

Trade of animal or parts: Very local trade.

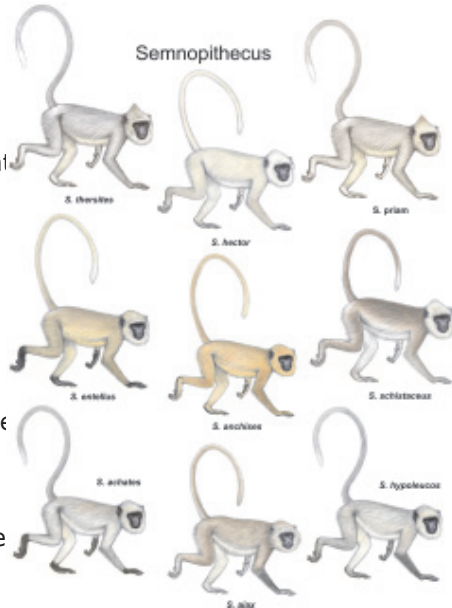
Wildlife legislation: Endemic subspecies not protected by law in Sri Lanka.

What you can do to save the Endangered Dry Zone Toque Macaque:

- Invite a local scientist, reserve manager, or other person who cares about Dry Zone Toque Macaque to give a talk in your community. Publicize the talk to encourage as many people to come as possible.

Langurs

Another type of primate ("monkey") is called Langur. Langurs are distinctly different from macaques. They are bigger than macaques with distended stomachs and very long tails. When they move their arms and legs are bent whereas macaques arms and legs are straight and short.



Langurs are different from one another, also, so they are divided into two groups or kinds, which we call genera. These two groups/genera are called *Semnopithecus* and *Trachypithecus*. In the one group, the babies born are about the same colour as adults, (*Semnopithecus* group), while in the other group (*Trachypithecus* group) the newborns are orange!. Other difference can be seen in colour, tail carriage, head, and facial hair.

The Common Indian Langur is so-named because it was thought of as one species occurring all over the country. There are, however, many differences, as pointed out in the table on the next page and in the illustrations throughout the langur section of this book. These differences prompted taxonomists to divide "common" Hanuman Langur into several different species of langurs. For example, the langurs in the Himalaya are completely different from the langurs in central India. Central Indian langurs are very different from the southern Indian and Sri Lankan langurs of this genus, *Semnopithecus*. The genus *Trachypithecus* occurs in Sri Lanka and north-eastern India. They are very different in appearance from Indian "common" langurs.

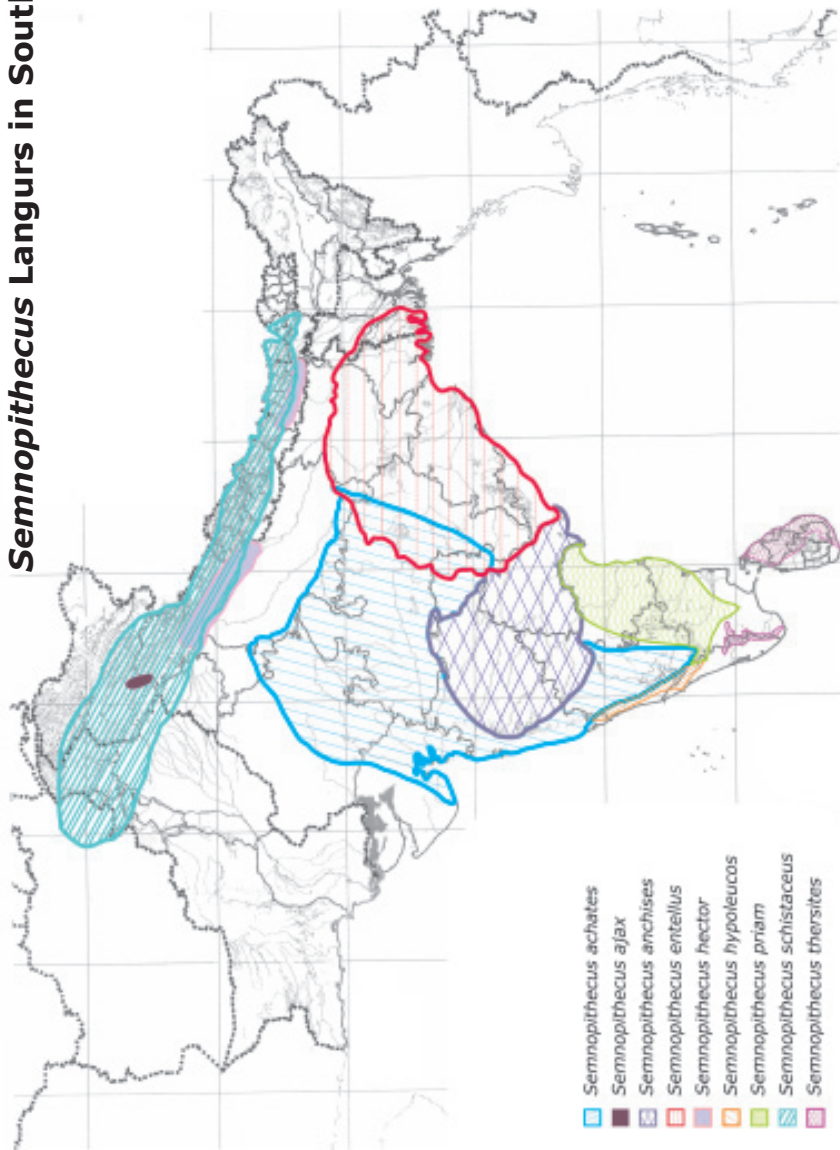
Primate taxonomy is changing and there will be even more changes as field biologists learn more about the "monkeys" they study.

Langurs are mostly fruit and leaf eaters, but eat insects occasionally. There are 14 species of langurs in South Asia with these characters:

South Asian Species of langurs or monkeys with the following unique characters

Langur	Body colour	Limb	Tail	Cheek hair	Beard	Head/Crop
Bengal Hanuman	Yellow grey	Bl hands/feet	Loop forward	Medium	Medium	Rounded
Deccan Hanuman	Golden grey	Dark hands	Loop forward	Medium	Medium	Rounded
Grey	Greyish-white	Uniform	Loop backward	Medium	Medium	Pointed cone
Coromandel Grey	Greyish-white	Uniform	Loop backward	Medium	Medium	Blunt cone
Himalayan	Grey	Greyish-white	Dark grey arms	Loop forward	Long	Blunt
Lesser Hill	White	Grhands & feet	Loop forward	Long	Long	Blunt
Central Himalayan	Whitish-grey	Uniform	Loop forward	Long	Long	Blunt
Dark-legged Malabar	Greyish-br/bl	Bl arms/hands	Loop backward	Medium	Medium	Rounded
Western Hanuman	Greyish-white	Bl hands/feet	Loop forward	Medium	Medium	Rounded
Nilgiri	Black	Black	Looping	Long	Medium	Blunt cone
Phayre's	Blackish-grey	Bl arms & feet	Looping	Short	Short	Pointed
Capped	Dark/light grey	Bl hands & feet	Looping	Long	Short	Capped
Golden	Golden	Bl palms & soles	Looping	Long	Short	Blunt
Purple-faced	Grey/black	Dark/black	Looping	Long	Medium	Rounded flat

Semnopithecus Langurs in South Asia



Semnopithecus achates

Western Hanuman Langur

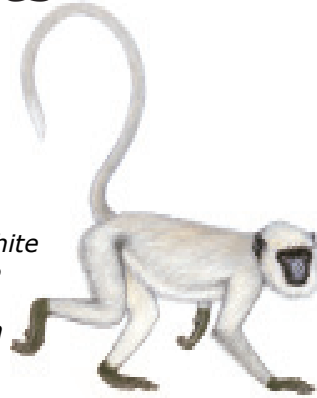
Family: Cercopithecidae

Status: LEAST CONCERN

Common names:

English: Western Hanuman Langur

Description: *A black-pawed, yellowish white monkey with a brownish grey tinge on the back, tail and limbs. It holds its tail backwards in west Andhra Pradesh, south Karnataka and west Maharashtra, and forwards in the rest of its range in north Chhatisgarh, Gujarat, Madhya Pradesh, south-east Rajasthan and probably Uttar Pradesh in central India.*



Habit: Arboreal, terrestrial, folivorous, diurnal.

Habitat: Tropical dry and moist deciduous, semi-arid, open scrub, woodland, human habitation.

Niche: Ground and canopy.

Diet: Leaves, fruits, buds, flowers, bark, soil, herbs, exudates and insects.

Elevation: Up to 1200m.

Habitat status: Decreased in area by less than 10 percent in the last 10 years; predicted decline 10 percent last 10 years due to man-animal conflict and habitat. Decrease in quality due to agriculture & altered habitat.

Distribution: Endemic to India.

Total Population: Not known.

Threats to its survival: Agriculture, habitat loss, man-animal conflict.

Trade of animal or parts: Not in trade.

Wildlife legislation: Schedule I, Part I, Indian Wildlife (Protection) Act, 1972 amended up to 2002.

What you can do to save Western Hanuman Langur:

Although Western Hanuman Langur is "Least Concern", the fact of its being involved in man-monkey conflict puts it at future risk. All persons living where wild monkeys visit need to discourage them, but without harming them. There are three things anyone can do

- don't feed monkeys at public places or at your home area;
- don't toss food out in the open anywhere;
- keep your home garbage secure so they can't get it and they will have no reason to come.

Semnopithecus ajax

Himalayan Grey Langur

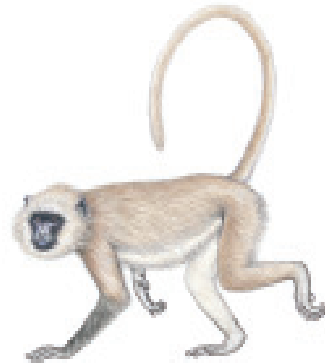
Family: Cercopithecidae

Status: **CRITICALLY ENDANGERED**

Common names:

Hindi: Goli, Hanuman langur;

English: Himalayan Grey Langur,
Western Himalayan Langur



Description: *A large yellowish white monkey with no crest and forward-looped tail. It has a brown tinge on the back, limbs and tail and is darkest on the hand and forearm.*

Habit: Folivorous, diurnal, social, arboreal.

Habitat: Subtropical, moist temperate, alpine, coniferous, broad leaved forests, human habitation.

Niche: Top canopy, human settlements, cropland.

Diet: Leaves, pine cones, bark and twigs.

Elevation: 2200-4000m.

Habitat status: Stable in area but predicted to decline in future by more than 10 percent in the next 10 years due to clearance for agriculture and encroachment. Decrease in quality due to altered habitat.

Distribution: Endemic to India.

Total Population: Less than 500.

Threats to its survival: Past threats: Overgrazing, building roads through forests, lopping, deforestation, agriculture, fire
Present and future threats: Agriculture and development.

Trade of animal or parts: Not in trade.

Wildlife legislation: India: Schedule II, Part I, Indian Wildlife (Protection) Act, 1972 amended up to 2002.

What you can do to save the Critically Endangered Himalayan Grey Langur:

- Educate yourself about the benefits of conservation and the important ecological role of langurs. Share the information with your friends, family and local community.
- Study the IUCN Red List until you fully understand the implications of Critically Endangered

Semnopithecus anchises

Deccan Hanuman Langur

Family: Cercopithecidae

Status: NEAR THREATENED

Common names:

English: Deccan Hanuman Langur

Description: *A pale-pawed, bright orange monkey with no crest. In the east of its range the tail is forward-looped and in the west backward-looped.*

Habit: Arboreal, diurnal, folivorous.

Habitat: Forest fringe, human settlement, tropical dry deciduous forest.

Niche: Mid to top canopy;

Diet: Leaves, fruits, buds, flowers, bark, soil, herbs, exudates and insects.

Elevation: Up to 800m.

Habitat status: Decreased in area over 10 percent in the last 10 years; predicted to decrease by over 10 percent last 10 years due to man-animal conflict and habitat loss. Quality loss due to agriculture and altered habitat.

Distribution: Endemic to India.

Total Population: Not known.

Threats to its survival: Agriculture, habitat loss, man-animal conflict, wildfire.

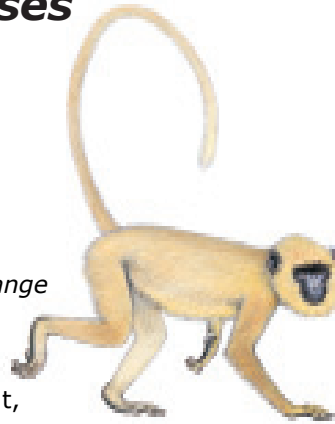
Trade of animal or parts: Not in trade.

Wildlife legislation: Schedule II, Part I, Indian Wildlife (Protection) Act, 1972 amended up to 2002.

What you can do to save Deccan Hanuman Langur:

Deccan Hanuman Langur has been assessed as Near Threatened which is not a high category, but the fact of its being involved in man-monkey conflict puts it at future risk. All persons living where wild monkeys visit need to discourage them, but without harming them. There are three things anyone can do (or not do) : • don't feed monkeys at public places or at your home area; • don't toss food out in the open anywhere; • keep your home garbage secure so they can't get it and they will have no reason to come.

Compare all the langurs in this book as to status. Study where they live and the threats and see if you can figure out how conservation biologists assess the status of species.



Semnopithecus entellus

Bengal Hanuman Langur

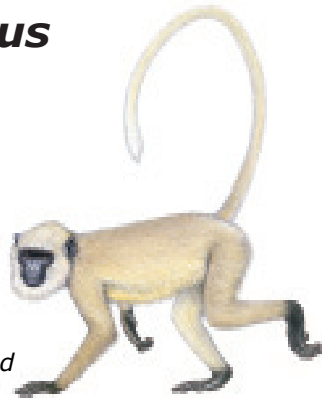
Family: Cercopithecidae

Status: NEAR THREATENED

Common names:

English: Bengal Hanuman Langur,
Northern Plains Gray Langur

Description: *A black-pawed, pale orange monkey with no crest and a forward-looped tail. It has a greyish brown tinge on the back, limbs and tail*



Habit: Arboreal, terrestrial, folivorous, diurnal.

Habitat: Tropical dry and moist deciduous forests, scrub, woodland

Niche: Top canopy.

Diet: Leaves, fruits, buds, flowers, bark, soil, herbs, exudates and insects.

Elevation: Up to 400m.

Habitat status: Decreasing in area 10 percent in the last 10 years; predicted to decrease by 10 percent in the next 10 years due to man-animal conflict and habitat loss. Decrease in quality due to agriculture and altered habitat.

Distribution: Bangladesh, India.

Total Population: Not known.

Threats to its survival: Agriculture, habitat loss, man-animal conflict in Bangladesh.

Trade of animal or parts: Not in trade.

Wildlife legislation: **Bangladesh:** Schedule III, Bangladesh Wildlife (Preservation) (Amendment) Act, 1974. **India:** Schedule II, Part I, Indian Wildlife (Protection) Act, 1972 amended up to 2002.

What you can do to save Bengal Hanuman Langur:

This langur has been assessed as Near Threatened which is not a high category, but the fact of its being involved in man-monkey conflict puts it at future risk. All persons living where wild monkeys visit need to discourage them, but without harming them. There are three things anyone can do (or not do) : • don't feed monkeys at public places or at your home area; • don't toss food out in the open anywhere; • keep your home garbage secure so they can't get it and they will have no reason to come.

Semnopithecus hector

Lesser Hill Langur

Family: Cercopithecidae

Status: **ENDANGERED**

Common names:

Nepali: Kalomukhe Bandar, Lampuchhre Badar, Phetawal Langur; **Tharu:** Kaldhaure, Guna; **English:** Gray Langur, Hanuman Langur, Lesser Hill Langur



Description: *A pale-pawed, yellowish white to pale orange monkey with no crest and a forward-looped tail. It has a pale greyish brown tinge on the back, arm, knee and tail.*

Habit: Diurnal, folivorous, terrestrial, multi male-multi female group, arboreal.

Habitat: Hill sal forest, subtropical sal forest.

Niche: Top canopy.

Diet: Leaves, fruits, buds, flowers, bark, soil, herbs, exudates and insects.

Elevation: 300-1,600m.

Habitat status: Stable in area at present but is predicted to decline by over 10 percent in the next 5 years due to settlement of landless people. Decrease in quality of habitat observed.

Distribution: India, Nepal.

Total Population: Less than 1000.

Threats to its survival: Mining, stone mining, firewood and charcoal collection production, timber collection, land distribution (resettlement) for landless people.

Trade of animal or parts: Not in trade.

Wildlife legislation: **Nepal:** National Park and Wildlife Conservation Act 1973 as a common animal. **India:** Schedule II, Part I, Indian Wildlife (Protection) Act, 1972 amended up to 2002.

What you can do to save Lesser Hill Langur:

Lesser Hill Langur has been categorised as Endangered which means that it needs help, even though its populations are stable right now. The influx of landless people are predicted to make a big difference. In such instances the only solution is education of policy makers and lobbying for a higher category of legal protection.

Semnopithecus hypoleucos

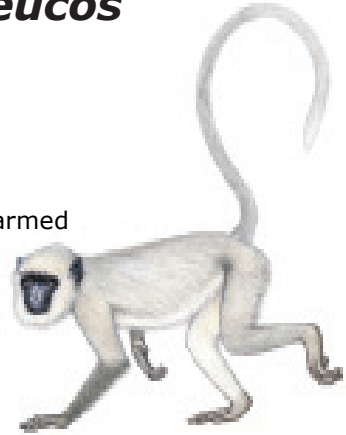
Dark-legged Malabar Langur

Family: Cercopithecidae

Status: **ENDANGERED**

Common names:

English: Black-footed Gray Langur, Dark-armed Malabar Langur, Dark-legged Malabar Langur, Dark-shanked Malabar Langur, Dussumier's Langur, Dussumier's Malabar Langur, Southern Plains Gray Langur



Description: *A small black-pawed, yellowish white monkey. It has a brownish grey tinge on the back, tail and limbs and darker arms than S. achates with which it intergrades to the north and east. It probably intergrades to the south-east with S. priam.*

Habit: Arboreal, semi-terrestrial, primarily folivorous, diurnal.

Habitat: Tropical rain forest, dry deciduous forest, sacred groves, moist deciduous forest, gardens, riparian forest.

Niche: On the ground.

Diet: Leaves, fruits, buds, flowers, bark, soil, herbs, exudates and insects.

Elevation: 100-1200m.

Habitat status: Decreasing in area by over 10 percent in the next 10 years and is predicted to decrease by over 10 percent in the next 20 years due to habitat degradation. Decrease in quality due to human intervention and fire.

Distribution: Endemic to India.

Total Population: Not known.

Threats to its survival: Past threat: Timber plantations. Present and future threats: Agriculture, human settlement, fragmentation, habitat loss, mining, deforestation, hunting and deliberate fires.

Trade of animal or parts: Local trade for live animal and meat for food and medicine.

Wildlife legislation: Schedule II, Part II, Indian Wildlife (Protection) Act, 1972 amended up to 2002.

What you can do to save Dark-legged Malabar Langur:

Learn more about the impact of human development on endangered species and do as many "green" things as you can.

Semnopithecus priam

Coromandel Grey Langur

Family: Cercopithecidae

Status: **VULNERABLE**

Common names:

English: Coromandel Grey Langur, Madras Grey Langur, Tufted Grey Langur

Description: *A large blond-pawed, yellowish white monkey with a crest and a backward-looped tail. It has a pale greyish brown tinge on the crown, back, arm and upper thigh.*



Habit: Arboreal, semi-terrestrial, folivorous, diurnal.

Habitat: Dry deciduous forest.

Niche: Canopy and ground.

Diet: Leaves, fruits, buds, flowers, bark, soil, herbs, exudates and insects.

Elevation: 100-1000m.

Habitat status: Decreasing over 10 percent in the last 20 years; predicted to decrease over 10 percent in the next 10 years due to habitat loss. Decrease in quality due to human interference.

Distribution: Endemic to India.

Total Population: Not known.

Threats to its survival: Hunting, habitat loss.

Trade of animal or parts: Local trade for meat and in live animal.

Wildlife legislation: Schedule II, Part I, Indian Wildlife (Protection) Act, 1972 amended up to 2002.

What you can do to save Coromandel Grey Langur:

Coromandel Grey Langur also is listed as one of the "commensal" primates currently causing difficulty in human habitations. If you live in its locality, don't feed them in public places, or throw left over food on the roads or in a public place, or leave your home garbage uncovered. Conflict situations can result in frustrated human beings taking action against these monkeys. Do all you can to prevent them from learning to depend on human habitations further which puts them in jeopardy. Already they are Vulnerable in status due to hunting and habitat loss.

Semnopithecus schistaceus

Central Himalayan Langur

Family: Cercopithecidae

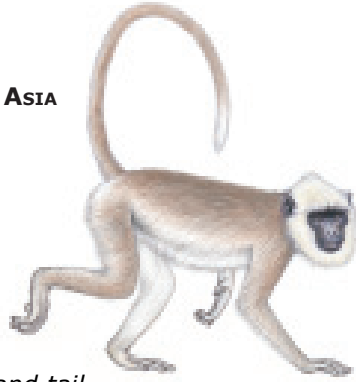
Status: **NEAR THREATENED** IN SOUTH ASIA

Common names:

Nepali: Kalomukhe Bandar, Lam-puchhre Bandar, Phetawal Bandar;

Tamang: Preken; **Tharu:** Kaldhaure;

English: Central Himalayan Langur, Hanuman Langur, Nepal Gray Langur



Description: *A large pale-pawed, yellowish white monkey with no crest and tail.*

Habit: Diurnal, terrestrial, arboreal, folivorous. Multi-male multi-female, all male group also seen.

Habitat: Subtropical to temperate, broadleaved forest, pine forest, riparian, montane forest, riverine forest, rocky outcrops, scrub jungle

Niche: Upper canopy, frequently terrestrial.

Diet: Leaves, pine cones, barks and twigs.

Elevation: 1000-3200m.

Habitat status: Stable in area. Decreased in quality due to loss of fruiting trees, altered habitat, fuel wood and timber collection.

Distribution: Afghanistan, Bhutan, China, India, Nepal, Pakistan, Tibet.

Total Population: Over 50,000 in South Asia.

Threats to its survival: Timber, firewood and charcoal production, habitat loss.

Trade of animal or parts: Not in trade.

Wildlife legislation: India: Schedule I, Part I, Indian Wildlife (Protection) Act, 1972 amended up to 2002 **Nepal:** National Parks and wildlife Conservation Act, 1973 listed as a common animal.

What you can do to save Central Himalayan Langur:

This Langur is listed as one of the "commensal" primates which currently are reported causing difficulty in human habitations. If you live in its locality, don't feed them in public places, or throw left over food on the roads or in a public place, or leave your home garbage uncovered. Conflict situations can result in frustrated human beings taking action against these monkeys. Do all you can to prevent them from learning to depend on human habitations further.

***Semnopithecus thersites* (India)**

Ghats Grey Langur

Family: Cercopithecidae

Status: **ENDANGERED** IN INDIA

Common names:

Malayalam: Manthi; **Tamil:** Vellamanthi;

English: Grey Langur

Description: *A small grey-pawed, yellowish white monkey with a crest and a backward-looped tail. It has greyish brown tinge on the crown, back, arm and upper thigh.*



Habit: Arboreal, semi-terrestrial, folivorous, diurnal.

Habitat: Dry deciduous forest, garden and cultivation areas.

Niche: Lower, middle and upper canopy and sometime on ground

Diet: Leaves, fruits, buds, flowers, bark, soil, exudates, herbs and insects.

Elevation: Up to 1000m.

Habitat status: Decreasing in area by less than 10 percent in the last 20 years; predicted to decrease by over 10 percent in the next 20 years due to conversion of forest land into cultivable area and habitat loss, human intervension. Decrease in quality due to habitat alteration.

Distribution: India.

Total Population: Not known.

Threats to its survival: Powerlines, roads, human settlement, accidental mortality, habitat loss.

Trade of animal or parts: Not in trade.

Wildlife legislation: Schedule II, Part I, Indian Wildlife (Protection) Act, 1972 amended up to 2002.

What you can do to save the Endangered Ghats Grey Langur:

- Educate yourself about the benefits of conservation and the important ecological role of langurs. Share the information with your friends, family and local community.
- Write and sing a song at "show and tell" or at your next kick back gathering, encouraging people to save Endangered species, especially langurs. This is also listed as a "commensal" or conflict prone monkey, so care should be taken not to reinforce their bad habits.

Semnopithecus thersites (Sri Lanka)

Sri Lankan Grey Langur

Family: Cercopithecidae

Status: **ENDANGERED** IN SRI LANKA

Common names:

Sinhala: Alu, Konda Vandura;

Tamil: Mandhi Kurangu, Saambal Kurangu

English: Grey langur, Hanuman Langur

Description: *A small grey-pawed, yellowish white monkey with a crest and a backward-looped tail.*

It has greyish brown tinge on the crown, back, arm and upper thigh.

Habit: Terrestrial, arboreal, folivorous, diurnal, frugivorous, more common near water-bodies.

Habitat: Tropical dry evergreen forest.

Niche: Lower, middle, upper canopy, sometimes on ground

Diet: Leaves, fruits, buds, flowers, bark, soil exudates, herbs and insects.

Elevation: Up to 350m.

Habitat status: Decreased in area by 50 percent in 50 years; predicted to decline over 20 percent in the next 5 years. Decrease in quality due to deforestation.

Distribution: Sri Lanka.

Total Population: Not known.

Threats to its survival: Hunting for food, poisoning, trade, habitat loss, fragmentation, loss of ecologically important species, human animal conflict. Subsistence and commercial hunting.

Trade of animal or parts: Local and commercial trade for meat.

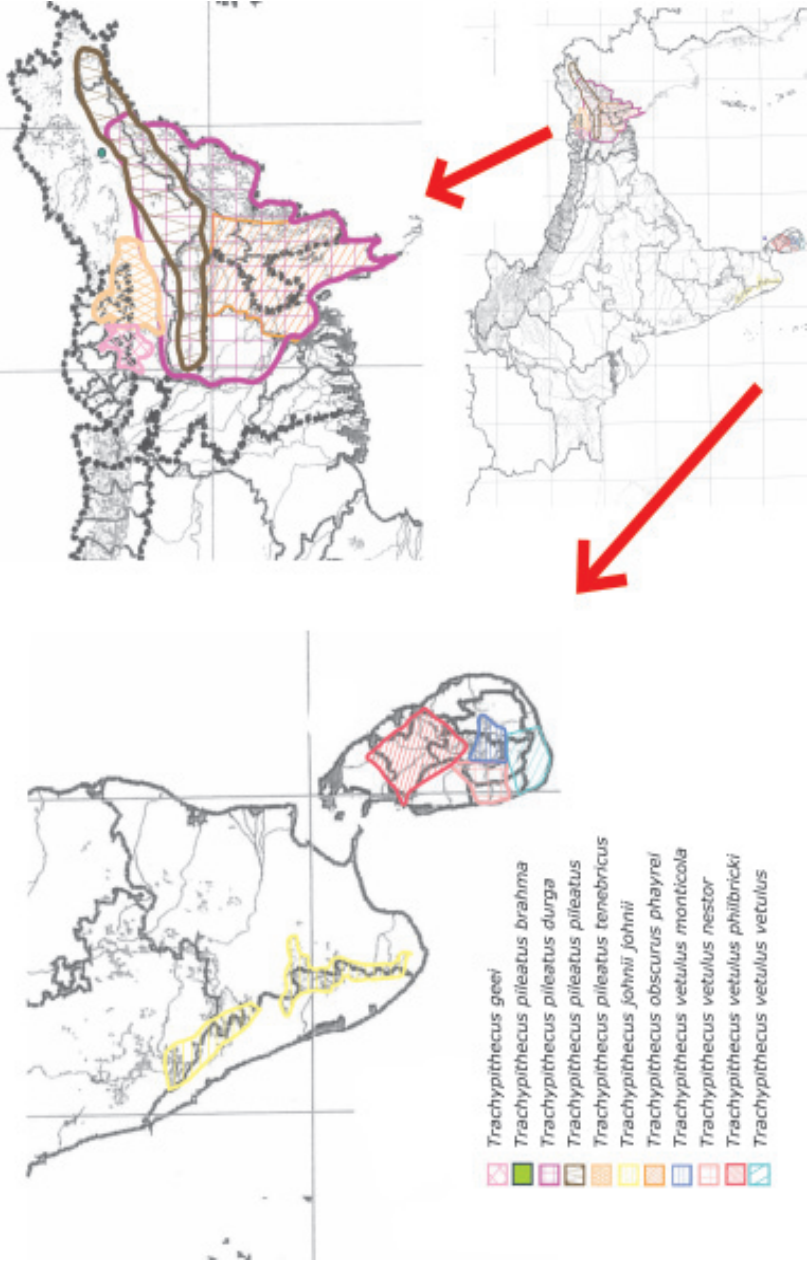
Wildlife legislation: Protected under the Fauna and Flora Protection Ordinance Act No. 2, 1937 and subsequent amendments including Act No. 49, 1993.

What you can do to save the Endangered Sri Lankan Grey Langur:

- Write a letter or article for a local newspaper telling why saving Endangered Sri Lankan Grey Langur is important to your community.
- Invite a local scientist, reserve manager, or other person who looks after endangered langurs and other animals to give a talk to your school. Then go home and tell your whole family. This is also listed as a "commensal" or conflict-prone monkey, so care should be taken not to reinforce their bad habits. Tell your family about this also.



Trachypithecus Langurs in South Asia



Trachypithecus geei

Golden Langur

Family: Cercopithecidae

Status: **ENDANGERED**

Common names:

Assamese: Sonali bandar

Bengali: Sonali-bandar; **Bodo:** Mokre gophur;

Hindi: Sunheara bandar; **Nepali:** Sunaulo

bandar, Sugrib; **English:** Gee's Golden

Langur, Golden Leaf Monkey



Description: *A large orange or blonde monkey.*

Habit: Predominantly arboreal, diurnal, folivorous.

Habitat: Tropical evergreen, moist deciduous and sal-dominated forest, deciduous broad-leaf, semi-evergreen, evergreen broad-leaved forests and fields.

Niche: Upper and middle canopy dweller.

Diet: Leaves, fruits, leaves and flowers.

Elevation: 50-3000m.

Habitat status: Decreasing in area by over 30 percent in last 10 years; predicted to decline over 20 percent next 10 years due to encroachment. Decrease in quality due to loss of lodging & fruiting trees, & altered habitat. Anthropogenic activities for rehabilitation is primary cause of change.

Distribution: Bhutan, India.

Total Population: Less than 5000.

Threats to its survival: Crop plantations, grazing, harvesting non-woody vegetation for firewood and charcoal production, selective logging, timber collection, human settlement, deforestation, fragmentation, trade, killed by domestic dogs, habitat loss, high juvenile mortality, inbreeding.

Trade of animal or parts: Local trade in live animals as pets and in road shows. Trade insignificant.

Wildlife legislation: India: Schedule I, Part I, Indian Wildlife (Protection) Act, 1972 amended up to 2002.

What you can do to save the beautiful Endangered Golden Langur:

- Write a story about Golden Langur comparing it to real gold. Make the point that a species is more valuable to humanity than actual gold. Use this to convince people to lobby for its safety. It is Endangered so time may be short for this species.
- Learn the names of the animals that share habitat with Golden Langur.

Trachypithecus johnii

Nilgiri Langur

Family: Cercopithecidae

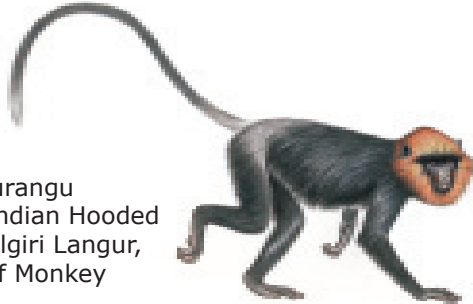
Status: **VULNERABLE**

Common names:

Malayalam: Karinkorungu

Tamil: Karumanthi, Karupu Kurangu

English: Black Leaf Monkey, Indian Hooded Leaf Monkey, John's Langur, Nilgiri Langur, Nilgiri Black Langur, Nilgiri Leaf Monkey



Description: *A large brown-headed, glossy black monkey from the southern part of the Western Ghats of India. Animals north of the Palakkad Gap are on average more silver-rumped than those from the south.*

Habit: Arboreal, folivorous, diurnal, usually uni-male group.

Habitat: Tropical wet evergreen, semi-evergreen, riparian forests, teak plantations.

Niche: Lower, middle and upper canopy.

Diet: Fruits, leaves, flowers and shoots.

Elevation: 300-2000m.

Habitat status: Twenty percent area decreased in the last 20 years & predicted to decrease similarly in the next 20 years due to habitat loss in outside protected areas. Quality loss due to forest degradation and land use.

Distribution: Endemic to India.

Total Population: Less than 20,000.

Threats to its survival: Past: Crop plantations, mining, dams, fragmentation, traditional medicine; Present and future threats are human settlement, hunting, road kills, fires, habitat loss, landslide.

Trade of animal or parts: Local trade for live animal for pets and meat for food and medicine.

Wildlife legislation: Schedule I, Part I, Indian Wildlife (Protection) Act, 1972 amended up to 2002.

What you can do to save Nilgiri Langur:

- Make your family and friends aware of this attractive animal
- Look it up on the internet and learn more about it
- Find out which of your legislators are interested in wildlife; write him and ask him to work for having more of Nilgiri Langur forests given higher protection.

Trachypithecus obscurus phayrei

Phayre's Langur

Family: Cercopithecidae

Status: **ENDANGERED**

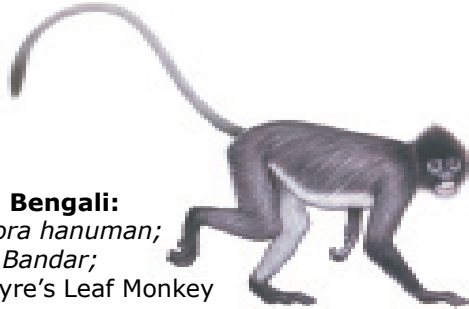
IN SOUTH ASIA

Common names:

Assamese: Chashma Bandar; **Bengali:** Chashma Bandar; Chashma pora hanuman;

Mizo: Dawr; **Nepali:** Chasme Bandar;

English: Phayre's Langur, Phayre's Leaf Monkey



Habit: Diurnal, predominantly arboreal and folivorous.

Habitat: Mixed moist deciduous forest, primary secondary moist evergreen forest, bamboo dominated areas, often near tea gardens, semi-evergreen forests.

Niche: Middle and top canopy.

Diet: Leaves, fruits, seeds, leaves and flowers

Elevation: Up to 800m.

Habitat status: Decreasing in area by over 50 percent in the last 10 years and is predicted to decline by over 30 percent in the next 10 years due to habitat destruction, habitat shrinkage, agriculture and establishment of tea gardens. Decrease in quality due to altered habitat, primary forest destruction. Establishment of tea gardens and paper mills is the primary cause of change.

Distribution: Bangladesh, India, Myanmar.

Total Population: Less than 2500 in South Asia.

Threats to its survival: Timber plantations, livestock ranching, shifting agriculture, firewood collection and charcoal production, infrastructure, human settlement, deforestation, fragmentation, collecting, illegal hunting for food, habitat loss, pesticides/chemical pollution, industrial pollution, inbreeding.

Trade of animal or parts: Local trade for zoos and meat for food.

Wildlife legislation: Bangladesh: Schedule III, Bangladesh Wildlife (Preservation) (Amendment) Act, 1974.

India: Schedule I, Part I, Indian Wildlife (Protection) Act, 1972 amended up to 2002.

What you can do to save the Endangered Phayre's Langur:

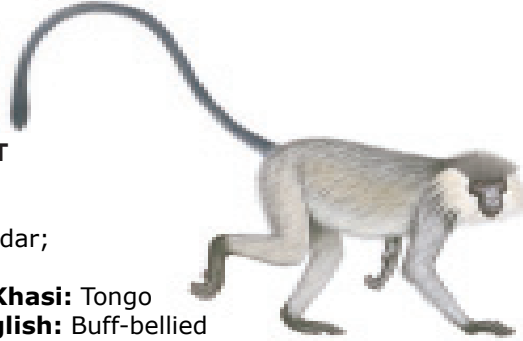
- If you come across any disease or death of Phayre's Langur report it to the forest officials.
- Become a member of an organization dedicated to saving primates and their habitats.

Trachypithecus pileatus brahma

Buff-bellied Langur

Subspecies of
Trachypithecus pileatus

Family: Cercopithecidae



Status: DATA DEFICIENT

Common names:

Assamese: Tupimuria bandar;

Garo: Rangol;

Hindi: Topi-wala bandar; **Khasi:** Tongo

Bengali: Topi Bandar; **English:** Buff-bellied Langur, Capped Langur

Description: *Dark grey to black fur of the back, fading to creamy white or golden yellow on the belly and defined by a lightest grey collar*

Habit: Arboreal, diurnal.

Habitat: Subtropical forest, broadleaved forest, evergreen deciduous forest, bamboo forest.

Niche: Upper and middle canopy dweller.

Diet: Leaves, fruits, seeds and flowers.

Elevation: Up to 2000m.

Habitat status: Not known.

Distribution: Endemic to India.

Total Population: Not known.

Threats to its survival: Not known.

Trade of animal or parts: Not known.

Wildlife legislation: Schedule I, Indian Wildlife (Protection) Act, 1972 amended up to 2002.

What you can do to save Data Deficient Buff-bellied Langur:

Not much is known about this taxa. You can become a field biologist and study the Data Deficient Buff-bellied Langur so people will know whether it is safe or almost extinct ! In the meantime, you can think of all the reasons why it might be dangerous for a species to be Data Deficient. If we don't know its status, then how can we put measures into place to help it, if it needs help. Or we might spend a lot of time and money on protection for it and neglect another species that needs even more attention.

What you can do for fun:

Compare the colours in all the langurs here. List different colours in the langur group. Are all the groups full of different colours?

Trachypithecus pileatus durga

Orange-bellied Capped Leaf Monkey

Subspecies of
Trachypithecus pileatus

Family: Cercopithecidae

Status: **ENDANGERED**

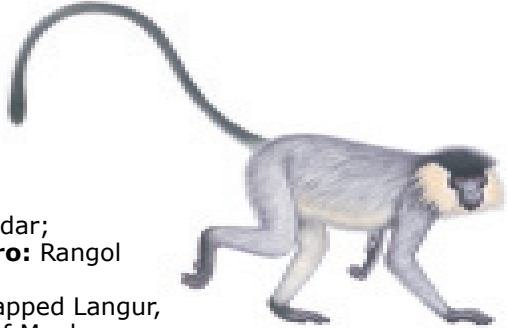
Common names:

Assamese: Topimuria bandar;

Bengali: Topi bengali; **Garo:** Rangol

Hindi: Topi wala Bandar;

Khasi: Tongo; **English:** Capped Langur,
Orange-bellied Capped Leaf Monkey



Description: *A large orange-bellied, grey monkey.*

Habit: Mostly arboreal, top and middle canopy dweller, diurnal

Habitat: Subtropical, broadleaved, evergreen, moist deciduous and bamboo forests.

Niche: Top and middle canopy dweller.

Diet: Leaves, fruits, flowers and seeds.

Elevation: 10-600m.

Habitat status: Decreasing in area 40 percent in last 20 years; predicted to decline 30 percent in next 20 years due to jhum cultivation and encroachment. Decrease in quality due to loss of lodging trees.

Distribution: Bangladesh, India.

Total Population: Less than 2500 in South Asia.

Threats to its survival: Crop plantations, timber, selective logging, firewood and charcoal production, human settlement, building roads, dams, power lines, deliberate fires, soil loss/erosion, fragmentation, hunting for sport, meat and traditional medicine, trapping, human interference, predators.

Trade of animal or parts: Local trade for meat, tail for food, skin for knife covers and for fur; live animal as pets.

Wildlife legislation: **Bangladesh:** Schedule III, Bangladesh Wildlife (Preservation) (Amendment) Act, 1974. **India:** Schedule I, Part I, Indian Wildlife (Protection) Act, 1972 amended up to 2002.

What you can do to save the Endangered Orange-bellied Capped Leaf Monkey:

- Create a sign or poster for your school, community center, protected area or local zoo explaining why gibbon conservation is beneficial to your community.
- Post the signs in your school stating local wildlife laws. Make sure the signs explain why the laws are beneficial to people as well as wildlife.

Trachypithecus pileatus pileatus

Blonde-bellied Capped Leaf Monkey

Subspecies of *Trachypithecus pileatus*

Family: Cercopithecidae

Status: **ENDANGERED**
IN SOUTH ASIA

Common names:

Assamese: Tupimuria bandar

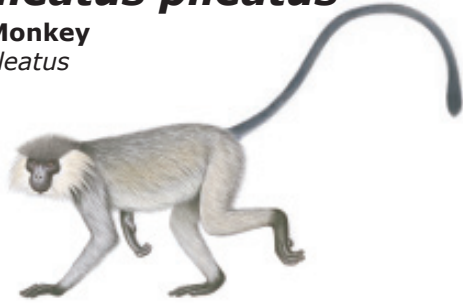
Bengali: Mukpori Hanuman;

Bengali in Bangladesh: Topi-bandar

Garo: Rangel; **Hindi:** Topiwala bandar

Khasi: Tongo; **Mizo:** Ngau;

English: Blonde-bellied Capped Leaf Monkey, Capped Langur



Description: A large blond-bellied, grey monkey.

Habit: Mostly arboreal, top and middle canopy dweller, diurnal.

Habitat: Mixed forests.

Niche: Top and middle canopy dweller.

Diet: Leaves, fruits, seeds, flowers and animal prey.

Elevation: 400-3,000m.

Habitat status: Decreased in area over 20 percent in the last 10 years; predicted to decrease over 30 percent in the next 10 years due to habitat loss. Decrease in habitat quality due to altered habitat.

Distribution: India, Myanmar.

Total Population: Less than 2500 in India.

Threats to its survival: Shifting agriculture, grazing, plantations, agriculture, timber, selective logging, firewood and charcoal production, human settlement, building roads, dams, power lines, deliberate fires, soil loss/erosion, forest fragmentation, hunting for sport, food and traditional medicine, accidental mortality, trapping, human interference, predators, habitat loss, poor reproduction.

Trade of animal or parts: Local, domestic and international trade for fur, meat; tail for food and live animals for zoos.

Wildlife legislation: India: Schedule I, Part I, Indian Wildlife (Protection) Act, 1972 amended up to 2002.

What you can do to save Endangered Blonde-bellied Capped Leaf Monkey:

- Learn the names of local animals and plants in the habitat of this species and create signs or booklets to teach others.
- Write a letter to local or national government official telling them why saving endangered Langurs is important to you.

Trachypithecus pileatus tenebricus

Tenebrous Capped Leaf Monkey

Subspecies of *Trachypithecus pileatus*

Family: Cercopithecidae

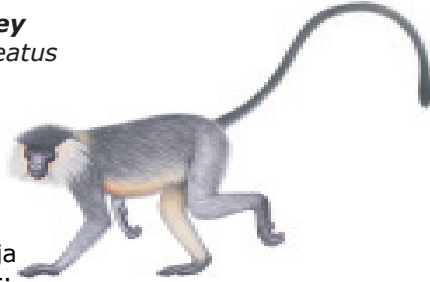
Status: **ENDANGERED**

Common names:

Assamese: Tupimuria bandar

Bengali: Topi banar; **Bodo:** Golija makhre; **Hindi:** Topi wala bandar;

English: Capped Langur, Tenebrous Capped Leaf Monkey



Description: *A large orange-bellied, grey monkey with a black forehead and tail tip.*

Habit: Predominantly arboreal, diurnal, folivorous.

Habitat: Subtropical forest, broad-leaved forest, evergreen forest, deciduous forest.

Niche: Top and middle canopy dweller.

Diet: Leaves, fruits, flowers and seeds.

Elevation: 100-2000m.

Habitat status: Decreasing in area in the past and is predicted to decrease in future due to habitat destruction, firewood collection and hunting. Decrease in quality due to loss of fruiting trees.

Distribution: Bhutan, India.

Total Population: Less than 2500 in South Asia.

Threats to its survival: Crop plantations, grazing, shifting agriculture, timber, roads, soil loss/erosion, deforestation, hunting for traditional medicine and food, poisoning, hooking, human interference, habitat loss.

Trade of animal or parts: Local trade for fur, meat, tail for food and medicine and whole animal for pets and zoos. Trade for food is resulting in population decline.

Wildlife legislation: India: Schedule I, Part I, Indian Wildlife (Protection) Act, 1972 amended up to 2002.

What you can do to save Endangered Tenebrous Capped Leaf Monkey:

- Write a letter or article for a local newspaper telling why saving this species is important to your community.
- Invite a wildlife biologist to give a talk to your club. Ask him to tell some of his experiences in studying animals to encourage your friends to emulate him.

Trachypithecus vetulus monticola

Montane Purple-faced Langur

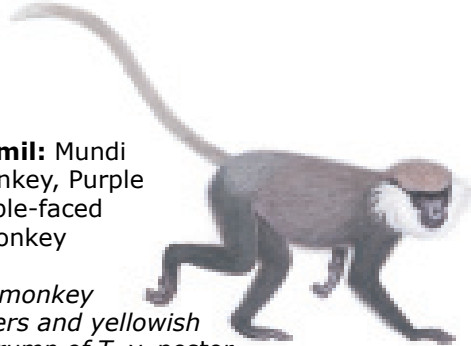
Subspecies of *Trachypithecus vetulus*

Family: Cercopithecidae

Status: **ENDANGERED**

Common names:

Sinhala: Kalu Wandura; **Tamil:** Mundi Kurangu; **English:** Bear monkey, Purple-faced Langur, Montane Purple-faced Langur, Purple-faced Leaf Monkey



Description: *A brown leaf monkey with prominent white whiskers and yellowish-white tail, lacking the pale rump of T. v. nestor.*

Habit: Folivorous, diurnal, arboreal.

Habitat: Montane (hill country) tropical rain forest.

Niche: Lower, middle and upper canopy.

Diet: Leaves, fruits, flowers.

Elevation: 1,000-2,200m.

Habitat status: Decreasing in area over 50 percent in the last 42 years; predicted to decrease by over 10 percent in the next 10 years. Decrease in quality also.

Distribution: Endemic to Sri Lanka.

Total Population: Not known.

Threats to its survival: Deforestation, fragmentation and habitat loss (crop plantation, development, human settlement) and hunting for subsistence or small scale cash.

Trade of animal or parts: Local and domestic trade for meat and skin. Village-level subsistence exploitation.

Wildlife legislation: Fauna & Flora Protection Act No. 49 of 1993. Only endemic species of Sri Lanka that is not protected by law.

What you can do to save Montane Purple-faced Langur:

- Educate yourself about the benefits of conservation and the important ecological role of all Purple faced langurs.
- Share the information with your friends, family and local community.

What you can do for fun :

- Look at the pictures of all the Purple-faced langurs in this book and list their differences.
- See if you can learn enough about their differences so that you could identify them if you see in the wild.

Trachypithecus vetulus nestor

Western Purple-faced Langur

Subspecies of *Trachypithecus vetulus*

Family: Cercopithecidae

Status: **CRITICALLY ENDANGERED**

Common names:

Sinhala: Kalu Wandura; **Tamil:** Karung Kurangu

English: Purple-faced Langur, Purple-faced Leaf Monkey, Western Purple-faced Langur

Description: *A brown leaf monkey with a pale rump, yellowish-white tail and prominent white whiskers.*

Habit: Diurnal, arboreal, folivorous (natural).

Habitat: Lowland tropical rain forest (natural), refugee populations presently inhabit semi-urban and rural home gardens, rubber plantation and areas with adequate canopy cover.

Niche: Lower, middle and upper canopy.

Diet: Leaves, fruits and flowers.

Elevation: Up to 1,000m.

Habitat status: Decreasing in area by over 50 percent in the last 10 years and is predicted to decline by over 80 percent in the next 10 years due to urbanization and development (the range already lacks natural forest). Decrease in quality due to fragmentation, reduction or loss of area, loss of quantity and diversity of food supply, refuges and travel routes between subpopulations.

Distribution: Endemic to Sri Lanka.

Total Population: Not known.

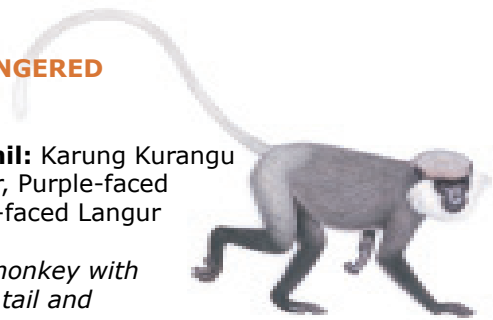
Threats to its survival: Crop plantations, development (infrastructure, industry), human settlement, deforestation, fragmentation, illegal trade for food, pylon collision, habitat loss .

Trade of animal or parts: Local trade at village level for meat but not significant

Wildlife legislation: Fauna and Flora Protection Ordinance 1937 as amended by Act 1993.

What you can do to save Western Purple-faced Langur:

Create a sign or poster for your school, community center, protected area or local zoo explaining why conservation of Purple faced langur is beneficial to your community.



Trachypithecus vetulus philbricki

Dry Zone Purple-faced Langur

Subspecies of *Trachypithecus vetulus*

Family: Cercopithecidae

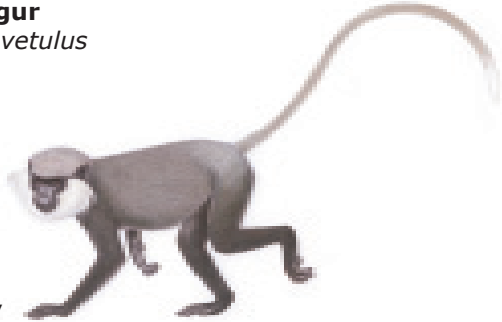
Status: **ENDANGERED**

Common names:

Sinhalese: Kalu Wandura

Tamil: Mundhi Kurungu

English: Purple-faced Langur,
Dry Zone Purple-faced Langur,
Northern Purple-faced Langur



Description: *A brown leaf monkey with prominent white whiskers and yellowish-white tail.*

Habit: Diurnal, arboreal, folivorous

Habitat: Dry evergreen forests (Tropical monsoon and deciduous dry forest). Confined to moister areas of dry zone with tall closed forest canopy near permanent sources of water.

Niche: Through dry zone but locally confined to moister tall stature forests.

Diet: Leaves, flowers and fruits.

Elevation: Up to 800m.

Habitat status: Decreasing in area by over 50 percent in the last 40 years or more and is predicted to decline by over 10 percent in the next 10 years due to development, agriculture and deforestation (habitat loss).

Distribution: Endemic to Sri Lanka.

Total Population: Not known.

Threats to its survival: Shifting agriculture, deforestation, human settlement, development, hunting for food, habitat loss, occasional cyclones in far northeastern areas of range.

Trade of animal or parts: Local trade for meat and skin. Hunted mainly for subsistence living and trade at local village level. Skin in some areas are used to make drums. This may lead to extinction of subpopulations.

Wildlife legislation: Protected under the Flora and Fauna Protection Ordinance Act No. 49 of 1993.

What you can do to save Dry Zone Purple-faced Langur:

Start a langur club in your school or community to meet and invite field biologists and others helping this beleaguered langur

Trachypithecus vetulus vetulus

Southern Lowland Wetzone Purple-faced Langur

Subspecies of *Trachypithecus vetulus*

Family: Cercopithecidae

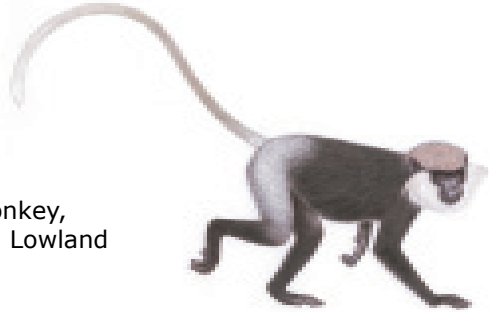
Status: **ENDANGERED**

Common names:

Sinhala: Kalu Wandura;

Tamil: Mundi Kurangu

English: Purple-faced Leaf Monkey,
Purple-faced Langur, Southern Lowland
Wetzone Purple-faced langur



Description: *A black leaf monkey with silvering on the rump, prominent white whiskers, a brown cap and yellowish-white tail.*

Habit: Arboreal, diurnal, folivorous.

Habitat: Lowland and midland tropical rainforest and modified areas with adequate canopy cover. Where its natural habitat has been destroyed, groups may refuge in home gardens and plantations, but these commensal habitats, too, are threatened.

Niche: Wet zone.

Diet: Leaves, flowers and fruits.

Elevation: Up to 1000m.

Habitat status: Decreasing over 50 percent in the last 50 years; predicted to decrease less than 10 percent in the next 10 years due to habitat loss. Decrease in quality due to loss of ecologically important food plants and fragmentation of forest.

Distribution: Endemic to Sri Lanka.

Total Population: Not known.

Threats to its survival: Selective logging (wet zone forests in 1970s), human settlement, hunting, trade, habitat loss (encroachment for agriculture/plantation/human habitation).

Trade of animal or parts: Local trade for meat for food and pelage for making drums at village level for subsistence.

Wildlife legislation: Protected under the Flora and Fauna Protection Ordinance 1937 as amended by Act 1993.

What you can do to save Southern Lowland Wetzone Purple-faced Langur:

- Lobby the Sri Lankan government to create a stricter legislation for animals whose status is threatened
- Learn more about the SLW Purple-faced langur write short dramas for conducting street plays in public areas about its plight

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Margot Marsh Biodiversity Foundation

The Margot Marsh Biodiversity Foundation is a foundation established to fund projects that conserve or promote the conservation of biodiversity, with a particular emphasis on efforts aiding primates.



Conservation International, CI

The mission of Conservation International is to conserve the Earth's living heritage, our global biodiversity, and to demonstrate that human societies are able to live harmoniously with nature. CI applies innovations in science, economics, policy and community participation to protect the Earth's richest regions of plant and animal diversity in the biodiversity hotspots, high-biodiversity wilderness areas as well as important marine regions around the globe. Learn more about CI please visit <http://www.conservation.org/>



Primate Specialist Group, PSG

PSG is an IUCN Species Survival Commission network of scientists and conservationists active in dynamic conservation throughout the tropical world, working in dozens of nations in Africa, Asia and Latin America, the PSG promotes research on the ecology and conservation of monkeys, apes, lemurs and their many nocturnal relatives. The PSG's primary responsibility is to evaluate the conservation status of all primate species and subspecies, working with current information from experts in the field. website: <http://www.primatesg.org/who.htm>



PSG, South Asia Primate Network

This active regional network helps the IUCN SSC PSG, a global Specialist Group, by working intensively with one subregion, e.g., South Asia, which has clear advantages over trying to manage primate conservation problems of whole Asia, the largest continental area, or the world at large. The South Asian Primate Network is hosted by Zoo Outreach Organisation ZOO and Wildlife Information Liaison Development WILD described below. Website: southasianprimatenetwork.org



Zoo Outreach Organisation

ZOO was founded to be a positive force for zoos, reaching out to zoo personnel to improve their animal management; to public, teachers and children to improve zoo behaviour and communicate conservation, and to help government officials realize the importance of zoos. ZOO also hosts and runs six networks of field biologists for IUCN SSC Specialist Groups and gives regional representation to several international organisations.



WILD

Wildlife Information Liaison Development (WILD) Society is a close partner and incestuous cousin of ZOO founded to help ZOO with its conservation and networking field biologists. WILD operates on the same general philosophy of positive and constructive action, and sane and sensible, scientific solution-driven projects. Both ZOO and WILD aim to be eclectic, eccentric, enthusiastic, effective and egregiously righteous conservation actioners.



Web sites of ZOO/WILD: www.zooreach.org, www.zoosprint.org, www.pterocount.org, www.southasianntaxa.org