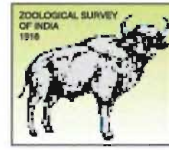




जहाँ हैं हरियाली !  
वहाँ हैं खुशहाली ॥



# NATIONAL AND STATE ANIMALS OF INDIA



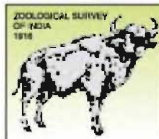
K. VENKATARAMAN  
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ZOOLOGICAL SURVEY OF INDIA  
KOLKATA



# National and State Animals of India

**K. Venkataraman**  
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**Zoological Survey of India**  
**Kolkata**

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Disclaimer

Every attempt has been taken to provide informations as appropriate as possible; however some discrepancies might have got intruded evading our notice, the learned readers are requested to intimate the publisher of the same, if any, for necessary improvement in the next edition of this volume.

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राष्ट्रीय जैव विविधता प्राधिकरण  
**NATIONAL BIODIVERSITY AUTHORITY**

भारत सरकार  
Govt. of India



**डॉ. बालकृष्ण पिसुपाटी**  
अध्यक्ष

*Dr. Balakrishna Pisupati*  
Chairman

## FOREWORD

India is one of the seventeen mega-biodiversity countries in the world that occupies about 2.7% of the global land area but harbour more than 7.5% of the animal species described so far in the world. Large varieties of ecosystems present in the ten bio-geographic zones of India have provided appropriate environments to all diversity of fauna to survive and propagate. India's conservation and sustainable management ethic is time tested and is bestowed with a wide variety of stakeholders including local communities. India's commitment to knowing, conserving and using the biodiversity is well-known through a range of actions for the past several centuries. The Zoological Survey of India (ZSI) is one such Institution established more than 96 years ago to document the faunal diversity of the country. Challenges notwithstanding, the ZSI continues to hold the flag for the country when it comes to activities related to conservation and management of fauna.

With Government of India hosting the eleventh meeting of Conference of Parties to the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD CoP 11) this year, the focus on India shifts from being a Party to the Convention to being the President for the CoP between 2012-2014. This additional responsibility requires that we re-double our efforts to raise the awareness about biodiversity in the country, manage the resource sustainably and share the benefits of such use. With this in mind, it is

thoughtful of ZSI to have brought out this publication to be launched during CBD CoP 11 meeting, collating information on national and state-wise fauna that are used as flagships and as designated species.

I am sure that all readers of this publication will benefit from familiarising themselves with such species and their relevance to our national and state level Identity. In as much as we wish to respect and honour our national symbols, it is important that we provide the same level of respect to species designed by the country and states in India.

I wish to congratulate ZSI for this timely effort and request everyone join their effort for raising awareness on the issue.



Balakrishna Pisupati

Chennai, September 2012



K. Venkataraman  
Director



Government of India  
Ministry of Environment and Forests  
ZOOLOGICAL SURVEY OF INDIA  
M-Block, New Alipore, Kolkata-700053



## PREFACE

Introduction about the quality and status of faunal diversity of a country to its citizens is a primary requisite towards the success of biodiversity conservation through people's participation. Honouring and symbolizing different animals at the national and at the state level generates consciousness of the people about the faunal wealth they possess and at the same time they become aware of their whereabouts and their responsibilities towards the wellbeing of such animals. This objective got reflected in the declaration of different animal and birds as national and state symbols in India.

At the national level four animals have been symbolized as National Animal, National Bird, National Aquatic Animal and National Heritage Animal. All the twenty eight states of India have designated their State Animals and Birds. Five union territories have also declared their state animals and birds. Union Territories of Chandigarh and Daman and Diu are yet to declare their state bird and animals.

Altogether 31 species of mammals, 29 species of birds and one species of fish have been declared so far as different animal symbols both at national and at the state and Union Territory level.

Black Buck (*Antelope cervicapra* Linnaeus, 1758) is found as adopted by three states as the state animal that suggests its wide distribution. This is followed by Elephant (*Elephas maximus* Linnaeus, 1758) as honoured both at national level as the National Heritage Animal and by two states as state animal. Koel (*Eudynamys scolopacea* Linnaeus, 1758) has been selected as the state bird by three states while Indian roller (*Coracias benghalensis* Linnaeus, 1758) by two states. Hume's Bar Tailed Pheasant (*Syrnaticus humiae humiae* Hume 1881) has been shared as the state bird of two North East states. Two aquatic mammals *i.e.* the Gangetic Dolphin (*Platanista gangetica* Roxburgh, 1801) and the Dugong (*Trichechus dugong* Muller, 1776) are declared as national and state icons respectively.

At the national level all the three mammals are declared as Endangered and included in the list of CITES Appendix- I. Many of the State Animals and Birds have also been included in different categories of the IUCN red list and have also been included in different Appendices of CITES at the International level. Most of these mammals and birds have been included in Schedule I of the Wild Life (Protection) Act, 1972 at the national level.

In our general experience it is known that such declaration of animal icons at institutional levels remain restricted within the related administrative domain. Actual purpose of such declarations get jolted if such informations are not widely publicized with adequate descriptions and illustrations for knowledge and better understanding of the common people. The present volume as published on the eve of the CoP 11 is with this objective to reach the message of vast faunal richness of India and the need for their conservation to the common mass. It would be much more appreciated and effective if such volumes of informations can be published in the regional languages and this task may ideally be initiated by the individual States and the Union Territories and for which the authors pledge to provide necessary knowledge support.

In the biotic world the chlorophyllous plants form the strong support foundation for an entire ecosystem. Similarly Ministry of Environment and Forests is the public sector umbrella Institute in India that supports many scientific and research organizations either directly under its control or as NGO, has selected a green plant umbrella as its logo indicating that wherever there is green there is prosperity. Zoological Survey of India (ZSI), subordinate to the Ministry of Environment and Forests, is the only institute of its kind working in the field of faunistic survey and animal taxonomy in India since 1916. A wild Bison has been selected as the animal icon in the logo of ZSI. Gaur or Bison (*Bos frontalis* Lambert, 1804) symbolize courage, strength and determination and with the same qualities ZSI also worked for nearly a hundred years to explore the faunal varieties of India and contributed largely in establishing a record of more than 92,000 species of animals in India.

Documentation of this volume required enormous information from every corner of India. I take this opportunity to convey sincerest

thanks to the Principal Chief Conservator of Forests, Conservator of Forests, Chief Wildlife Warden and other responsible officials of the wildlife wing of the forests departments of all the states as well as all other responsible officers of all the Union Territories of India for proving all necessary information including notifications on declaration of state animals and birds. Thanks are also due to those of our colleagues and others who have kindly contributed the photographs for appropriated illustrations. Officials of the ENVIS centre ZSI deserve thanks for providing ample technical support including the provision of the different maps etc. We put on record of our pleasure in consulting some of the websites as mentioned in the bibliography section of this volume. Websites of some government departments were also consulted and supports have also been taken from those in bringing about this non-commercial publication. Ministry of Environment and Forests, Government of India, the mother institute has provided all initiatives and supports to produce this documentation; we express our gratitude. National Biodiversity Authority, the prime institute in India in promoting biodiversity conservation through its nationwide network, has kindly consented to sponsor this publication on the eve of CoP 11; we register our gratitude for this support. Lastly we extend our sincerest thanks to all our colleagues and scientists who have provided their inputs in preparing this production. The Publication Production Officer and other colleagues in the publication division ZSI deserve special thanks for their untiring efforts in bringing out this volume, in proper time.

A section on 'Documents' containing official intimations and notifications on the declaration of National and State animals and birds has been added towards the end of this presentation for authentication and the measures exhibited by the Government of India for the conservation of biodiversity in India.

This compilation shall survive and the efforts shall materialize with the realization of its utility finally by the end users only.



(K.Venkataraman)

September, 2012



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# Introduction

*Homo sapiens* the species human evolved long back on this planet Earth as a heterotroph like all other higher animals. Homo therefore naturally and biologically became dependant directly or indirectly on plants and animals in their surroundings for their sustenance and progression. Man animal relationship therefore got established as a natural phenomenon. Since the dawn of civilization man realized and appreciated the supportive role played by the animals and plants towards human survivability. Transition from hunter-gatherer to cultivator, from nomadic to settlers took a long journey that resulted into transition in the understanding about nature in the surroundings also.

Various Indian religious texts (Dharmasastras) like Aranyakas, Upanishad, and Smriti samhitas contain many descriptions on the uses and management of forests and animal resources and also highlight sustainability and rational use of natural resources in ancient India. According to the Vedic traditions, a complete village has to contain certain types of forests that are to be managed by the villagers. This is in line to the 'protected areas' and 'production forests' of today. Religion played an important role in ancient India to protect nature and natural resources. Worshiping of trees supported the conservation of all animals also, harbouring on the tree.

The hymn of Atharva Veda - "Whatever I dig out from you, O Earth! May that have quick regeneration again; may we not damage thy vital habitat and heart"- proves that the thought of sustainability was there in the mind of early Indians. The protected areas of today stand equivalent to the concept of 'Mahavan' (great forest) during Vedic Age where all species could coexist. Indian religious literatures are rich with ideas and ethos of forest conservation practices that included conservation of animals also.

The issue of conservation and rational use of natural resources were found scripted in Manu-samhita, a Dharmasastra also known as

Smriti-Samhita that provides the code of religious as well as civil laws. Authored by the first Manu the Svayambhuva Manu, it is presumed that the texts originated during the 2<sup>nd</sup> century BC and the 2<sup>nd</sup> Century A.D.

The Manu-Samhita stated that it is the responsibility of the king to protect the animals. From the hunter-gatherer stage of life men consumed animals. This caused destruction of wild life and perhaps with a view to save random killing, the Manu-Samhita categorically prohibited unwanted slaughter of animals.

Various degrees of punishments ranging from condemnation in the society, imposition of fines in terms of money or costly kinds, for different maltreatments to the animals like cow, elephant, camel, horse, ass, goat, dog, mongoose, langurs, wild cat, boar, toad, iguana, snake, owl, crow, francoline partridge, parrot, swan, curlew, heron, crane, cattle egret, peacock, falcon, white backed vulture, etc. was recommended in Manu Samhita. The text mentioned that the forests-dwelling animals and birds are not articles for sale, and one who threatens the elephant, cow, horse, camel etc. should be socially ostracized.

The text also bore close similarities with such prescriptions contained in the ancient Indian literature the 'Kautiliya Arthasastra' (321-297 BC), where upon it was also recommended for erection of elephant forests with the engagement of ecologically educated forest guards. Further, capital punishment to the killer of an elephant was recommended in this text.

'Vishnu-Samhita' another ancient Smriti samhita considered to be authored by Vishnu the sage, also contained concerns with the protection of plants, crops, domestic and wild animals. Killing, harming and stealing of animals were regarded as penal crimes by the text of these documents. It suggested various punishments for different offences. For killing elephant, horse, camel one hand and one leg of the offender were prescribed to be cut off. For killing of any domestic animal, wild animal, bird, fish, worms, insects, cow, dog, iguana, owl, crow, garden lizard, swan, cattle egret, heron, common teal, diver bird, falcon, white backed vulture, hare, monkey, snake, boar, francoline partridge, parrot, crane, heron, mole rat, mongoose, frog, python - the offender were prescribed to pay various fines both in cash and in kind.

In the traditional culture of India there came into existence of thousands of Sacred Grooves where upon all the basic components of

nature both biotic and abiotic are worshiped and protected by different clans of people in the vicinity of their dwellings. Being symbolic, such activities clearly reflected the mind-set of people towards the conservation of natural resources.

Governance of conservation processes at institutional level originated in India long back. It was some 2300 years back about 304 B.C. that emperor Ashoka was born and became the third king of the Mauryan dynasty around 268 B.C.

The Mauryan empire was the first Indian empire that advocated the policy of utilizing as well as protecting natural resources both living and non-living through well framed official instructions to the trained officials. Emperor Ashoka embraced Buddhism and introduced significant changes in his governance and included the policy of protection to faunal and forests resources. This is depicted in the inscriptions of the rock and the stone edicts erected during his ruling period.

King Ashoka advocated that the state had the responsibility to protect and promote the welfare of its wildlife. Hunting of certain species of wild animals was banned, forest and wildlife reserves were established and cruelty to domestic and wild animals was prohibited. Such reforms as were adopted by emperor Ashoka is reported to have encouraged the monarchs in the ancient Buddhist world.

In the first and eleventh rock edicts erected by the emperor Ashoka sacrificing or slaughtering of animals were banned, even slaughtering of animals like peacock, deer etc. for the royal kitchen delicacy were also very much restricted. The second rock edict declared the provision of medical treatment for animals as introduced by the emperor Ashoka.

Various animals were declared as protected by Ashoka in his edicts on the fifth pillar. They included parrots, mainas, ruddy geese, wild ducks, bats, queen ants, terrapins, boneless fish, fish, tortoises, porcupines, squirrels, deer, bulls, wild asses, wild pigeons, domestic pigeons and all four-footed creatures that are neither useful nor edible. Milking goats, ewes and sows along with their youngs were also protected. Castration was banned. Burning of husks and forests were prohibited. Capturing and killing of fishes during auspicious days were also prohibited.

The Seventh pillar edict narrated about the erection of road side plants and watering-places for the benefit of animals and man.

Ashoka did not completely prohibit the killing of animals rather, he advocated restraint in the number of killings for consumption, protected some of them, and in general condemned violent acts against animals. He further professed the process of persuasion towards achieving people's consciousness in respect of harmlessness to living beings and non killing of living beings.

Buddhism advocated reverence and compassion for all living forms including invertebrates and the vertebrates. The necessity of the food chain for the bodily existence of the animals including man has been accepted in Buddhism and it therefore advocated rational use of all the natural resources that provide food, clothing, shelter etc. for the sake of posterity.

That all these realizations, advocacies and practices since ancient times had their bearings thousands of years after, is evidenced in selecting the Sarnath Lion Capital of Ashoka as the national emblem of the independent Republic of India.

With the passage of time the population human swelled steeply with the advent of modern medical support. Consumption of natural resources increased rapidly. Technological advancements promoted industrialization, modern agricultural and farming practices, modern navigational tools and air borne devices have brought the entire biosphere on this earth on the palm of mankind. However unplanned activities have resulted into degradation, fragmentation and alteration of habitats of thousands of species fauna and flora. Direct and indirect anthropogenic activities have posed threats to a large number of species and rendered them threatened to existence.

Fortunately the issues were taken into cognizance and efforts were taken globally, nationally and locally to mitigate the problems. India has had a long history of conservation and sustainable use of natural resources. National strategies and plans for the conservation, sustainable and equitable use of biological diversity are rooted deep in the long and rich spiritual and cultural traditions of the country.

The issue of instituting animal symbols at the national level was conceptualized in the year 1960, in the International Council for Bird

Preservation that met in Tokyo to encourage governments around the world to designate a national bird to encourage protection. However Lion was declared as the National Animal of India, before that.

Thus with the aim of generating awareness amongst common mass on the quality and status of biodiversity components of the country and of the states as well and also for successful implementation of the conservation programmes such introduction of animal symbol at national and state level was initiated.

Though eminent Ornithologist Salim Ali was in favour of the Great Indian Bustard, considering wide distribution throughout India, magnificent look and various cultural use the 'Peacock' was solemnized as the National Bird of India in 1963.

Lion remained as our National animal till 1972. However, at the national level Lion was replaced by Tiger in 1973. The reasons probably were that distribution of tiger in India is much more in comparison to Lion that exist in one state only, further they are also endangered and need adequate protection. Government of India, Ministry of Environment and Forests, on May 2011 renotified the 'Tiger' as the National Animal and 'Peacock' as the National Bird of India.

On 10.05.2010 Ministry of Environment and Forests declared 'Gangetic Dolphin' as the National Aquatic Animal and on 21.10.2010 Ministry of Environment and Forests declared 'Elephant' as National Heritage Animal of India.

Government of India, Department of Environment, Wild Life Section vide letter No.1-2/83-FRY (WL), DT. 17.03.1983 observed that India is a vast country, harbouring a variety of geoclimatic regions, with the result that the flora and fauna found in different regions is quite distinct in each region. To focus attention towards the endemism/indigenous nature etc. of particular species of wild life, it was suggested that each State should have its own State Animal /Bird/Tree. As many states share a common geo-climatic region and with similar fauna and flora species affecting that region, it is possible that more than one State may select the same species as State Animal/Bird/Tree. To avoid such a situation all the State Governments and Union Territories Administration of India were requested to suggest names of animals, birds and trees with adequate justifications that are to be finally approved by the Union of India as the State Animals and Birds of India.

The National Board for Wildlife (NBWL) became the recommending authority to the Government of India in this regard.

Gradually State Animals and state Birds have been declared for all the 28 States and 5 of the 7 Union Territories of India so far.

Scientific names, salient features, distribution, habit - habitat and threats and protection of all the animals have been provided wherever possible.

Though it was advised not to select the same animal as the animal icons of the states, it is found in some cases the same has been approved. Elephant has been declared as the state animal of more than one state. This probably justifies its declaration as National Heritage Animal.

It is worthwhile to mention that all the declared National and State Animals are mammals only, except the UT Lakshadweep where it is a fish and again birds who are also animals have been declared as National and State birds. Logically all the mammals and birds are the animals however with their characteristic distinctions. Therefore labeling the mammals as animals only appeared confusing. It would be highly appropriate and justifiable to designate the animals according to their class of belongings such as National or State Fish, Amphibia, Reptile, Bird and Mammals.



## Emblem of India

### The symbol of Biodiversity

The national emblem of India has been adapted from the Sarnath Lion Capital of Ashoka. It was originally placed atop the Ashoka pillar at Sarnath, now in the state of Uttar Pradesh by Emperor Ashoka around



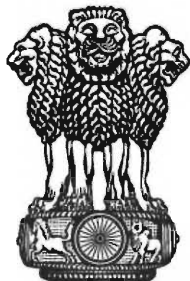
250 BC. Emperor Ashoka erected the capital to mark the place where Gautama Buddha first taught the Dharma and where the Buddhist Sangha was founded. Carved out of a single block of polished sandstone, the capital was crowned by a 'Dharmachakra' popularly known as the "Ashoka Chakra". This is now preserved in the Museum of Sarnath. In the original Sarnath capital there are four Asiatic lions standing back to back -

symbolizing power, courage, pride and confidence - mounted on a circular abacus. The abacus is girded by four smaller animals - guardians of the four directions: the lion of the north, the elephant of the east, the horse of the south and the bull of the west. The abacus rests on a lotus in full bloom, exemplifying the fountainhead of life and creative inspiration. The motto 'Satyameva Jayate' inscribed below the emblem in Devanagari script means 'truth alone triumphs'.

In the national emblem as adopted by the Government of India on 26<sup>th</sup> January 1950, only three lions are visible, the fourth being hidden from view. The wheel appears in relief in the centre of the abacus, with the bull on the right and a galloping horse on the left, and

outlines of Dharma Chakras on the extreme right and left. The bell-shaped lotus beneath the abacus has been omitted.

Animals thus appeared in the centre stage at the onset of the Republic of India. The lions, the bull and the horse all represented the courage and strength that a nation like India needed for its development, progress and prosperity. Further the fundamental philosophy of conservation as was laid down by the Emperor Ashoka was also being adopted by the Republic of India ever since its inception.



सत्यमेव जयते

Through the passage of time human population increased many fold with a corresponding increase of the quantum and the rate of utilization of natural resources both renewable and non renewable that in turn brought forward the problems regarding degradation of natural resources and emergence of environmental pollution as the key factors of attention in the brain storming sessions both at national and international level.

With the foundation of living in harmony with compartments of nature at its grass root, India responded to such emerging issues by instituting the ideas of conservation through mass awareness on the subjects concern and enacted series of legislations also towards protection and conservation of all natural resources within her sovereign jurisdiction with the objectives of sustainable development.



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# **Animal Icons of India**

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## Animal Icons of India

### National Animal

**Tiger.** Scientific name is *Panthera tigris tigris* Linnaeus 1758. It is commonly known as Tiger (Eng.), Sher (Hindi), Bagh (Bengali), Pateri Vagh (Marathi), Pedda puli (Telugu), Vengai puli (Tamil), Kaduwra (Malyalam), Hulee (Kannada) and Bagha ( Oriya ).

**Salient features:** The pelage colour is rich reddish yellow to orange rufous coat with short, coarse and dense fur. Characteristics black stripes are found on the body and black ring on the long tail ending to a black tip. Its ventral is white and it has short and round ears with black on the backside with a prominent white spot. Forelimbs are more power full than hind limbs with large foot pads. The female is smaller in size than male. Head and body length varies from 14 to 300cm and tail length is within 60 to 110 cm, hind foot ranges from 30 to 40 cm and height at shoulder varies from 95 to 110 cm. Weight is within 135 to 230 kg.

**Distribution:** Distributed in wild only in Asia. Royal Bengal tiger is the most common subspecies of tiger and is found primarily in India



and Bangladesh. In India they were though distributed through out the country; presently they are restricted in as many as twenty five states like West Bengal, Madhya Pradesh, Rajasthan, Andhra Pradesh, Uttar Pradesh, Bihar, Arunachal Pradesh, Uttarakhand etc. Only 11% of original Indian tiger habitat remains, and it is becoming significantly fragmented and often degraded.

**Habit and habitat:** They are habituated to in a variety of habitats viz., open jungle, thorny, reverine evergreen, semi-evergreen, mangrove and swampy forests and also in dry and moist deciduous forests. They are adapted and have been reported from high altitude, in tall grass, grass lands, scrub jungles etc. They are excellent swimmer also. The tiger is basically cryptic in habit, though it hunts at night. Their activities start between sunset and dawn. It chases the prey to a long distance during night hunting. It is capable of migrating a long distance in search of food and it can also survive on a small prey. In the wild, tigers mostly feed on larger and medium sized animals. Sambar, gaur, chital, barasingha, wild boar, nilgai and both water buffalo and domestic buffalo are the tiger's favoured prey in India. Sometimes, they also prey on leopards, pythons, sloth bears and crocodiles. They make territory through scent markings and faecal deposits as visual markers. The female gives birth 2 to 6 cubs during February to May. Though they are solitary in nature, but family is not uncommon. Densities of tiger depend on vegetation cover in addition to the prey availabilities. The life span is recorded 20 years in wild.

**Significance of Tiger in an Ecosystem and in Indian Culture:** A time immemorial tigers has been considered as a charismatic species for its strength, power, beauty, bravery and valor. The tiger also has a significant place in Hindu mythology as the mount of Goddess Durga. Tigers thereby remained closely associated with the Indian culture.

Tigers remain at the highest level of consumer in the food chain of a forest thereby control the health and diversity of that ecosystem. Therefore the presence of optimum population in a forest indicates good health of that ecosystem. Protection of tigers in forests protects habitats of several other species. Thus an entire ecosystem including its physical components gets protected. For survival of the tigers in the wild, it is essential that other species of wild animals that are directly or indirectly a part of the food chain must also survive. Therefore, the survival of the tiger is an important yardstick to measure the existence of a healthy forest. Tigers also act as natural sentry to the forests resources against the exploitation of ever expanding human population.

**Threats and protection:** This majestic animal is under severe threats of habitat fragmentation, human interference, human encroachment of their habitat, loss of corridors, decline of prey species and prey population, trade, hunting, poaching etc. Their number has declined rapidly during the last century. Their skins, bones, fur, body parts, whiskers, claws, nails even live animals are on demand in National and International markets. It is protected under Schedule I, Part I of WL (P) Act, 1972. Conservation Status – **Endangered** (IUCN 2012.1). It has been placed under Appendix-I of CITES.

## National Bird

**Indian peafowl.** Scientific name is *Pavo cristatus* Linnaeus 1758 and common name is Peacock (Eng.) Mor or Mayura (Hindi), Indian Peafowl (Eng.), Moria (Odisha), Mayur (Beng.).



**Sallent features:** Its size is more or less the size of domestic turkey and length is 92 to 122 cm in male and 86cm approx. in female. Lower back of male is light bronze green narrowly scalloped with black, wings close-bar with black and buff, upper tail coverts elongated metallic bronze, green, boldly oscillated with purplish black centered coppery discs or eye-spots, head with fan shaped crest, blue neck and breast. The female is somewhat smaller upper tail coverts not elongated, lower neck metallic green, abdomen buff white.

**Distribution:** It is a resident bird and is found throughout Indian mainland.

**Habit and habitat:** It is diurnal in habit and moves in flocks. They are omnivorous in feeding. Breeding season is noted as June to

September. It is found mainly below an altitude of 1800 m and in rare cases seen at about 2000m. It is found in moist and dry-deciduous forests, but can adapt to live in cultivated regions and around human habitations and is usually found where water is available. Peafowl forage on the ground in small groups, known as musters that usually have a cock and 3 to 5 hens. After the breeding season, the flocks tend to be made up only of females and young. They are found in the open early in the mornings and tend to stay in cover during the heat of the day. They are fond of dust-bathing and at dusk, groups walk in single file to a favourite waterhole to drink. When disturbed, they usually escape by running and rarely take to flight. Peafowl produce loud calls especially in the breeding season. They may call at night when alarmed and neighbouring birds may call in a relay like series. Nearly seven different call variants have been identified in the peacocks apart from six alarm calls that are commonly produced by both sexes. Peafowl are omnivorous and eat seeds, insects, fruits, small mammals and reptiles. They feed on small snakes but keep their distance from larger ones. Around cultivated areas, peafowl feed on a wide range of crops such as groundnut, tomato, paddy, chilly and even bananas. Peafowl roost in groups during the night on tall trees but may sometimes make use of rocks, buildings or pylons.

**Peacock in Indian Culture:** The English word “peacock” has come to be used to describe a man who is very proud or gives a lot of attention to his clothings. Prominent in many cultures, the peacock has been used in numerous iconic representations, including being designated the national bird of India in 1963. The peacock, known as *Mayura* in Sanskrit, has enjoyed a fabled place in India since and is frequently depicted in temple art, mythology, poetry, folk-music and traditions. Many Hindu deities are associated with the bird, Krishna is often depicted with a feather in his headband, while worshippers of Shiva associate the bird as the mount of the God of war the Karthikeya (also known as Skanda or Murugan). A story in the *Uttara Ramayana* describes the head of Gods the Indra, who unable to defeat Ravana, sheltered under the wing of peacock and later blessed it with a “thousand eyes” and fearlessness from serpents. Another story has Indra who after being cursed with a thousand ulcers was transformed into a peacock with a thousand eyes. In Buddhist philosophy, the peacock represents wisdom. Peacock feathers are used in many rituals and ornamentation. Peacock motifs are widespread in Indian temple architecture, old coinage, textiles and continue to be used in many modern items of art and utility. Peacock motifs are widely used even

today such as in logo of the US National Broadcasting Company television network and the Sri Lankan Airlines.

**Threats and protection:** In many parts of northern India, they are protected by religious sentiment and will forage around villages and towns for scraps. Indian Peafowl are widely distributed in the wild across South Asia and protected both culturally in many areas and by law in India. Conservative estimates of the population put them at more than 100,000. Illegal poaching for meat however continues and declines have been noted in parts of India. Poaching of peacocks for their meat and feathers; and accidental poisoning by feeding on pesticide treated seeds are known threats to wild birds. Methods to identify if feathers have been plucked or have been shed naturally have been developed as Indian law allows the collection of feathers that have been shed.

In parts of India, the birds can be a nuisance to agriculture as they damage crops. It's adverse effects on crops, however, seem to be offset by the beneficial role it plays by consuming prodigious quantities of pests such as grasshoppers.

It is included as Schedule I of Part III of WL (P) Act, 1972. Conservation Status - Least Concerned (IUCN 2012.1). It has not been restricted under CITES.

## National Aquatic Animal

**River Dolphin.** Scientific name *Platanista gangetica* and common name is River Dolphin (Eng.), Susu (Hindi), and Shushuk (Bengali). It was first described by Roxburgh in 1801 at Hooghly river.

The species was described by two separate authors, Lebeck and Roxburgh, in 1801 and it is unclear to whom the original description should be ascribed. Until the 1970s, the South Asian River Dolphin was regarded as a single species. The two subspecies are geographically separate and have not interbred for many hundreds if not thousands of years. Based on differences in skull structure, vertebrae and lipid composition scientists declared the two populations as separate species in the early 1970s. In 1998, the results of these studies were questioned and the classification reverted to the pre-1970 consensus of a single species containing two subspecies until the taxonomy could be resolved using modern techniques such as molecular sequencing. Thus, at present, there are two subspecies recognized in the genus



*Platanista*, the *Platanista gangetica gangetica* (Ganges River dolphin) and the *Platanista gangetica minor* (Indus River dolphin).

**Salient features:** Body is fusiform with head prolonged into a long and compressed beak. Low dorsal fin is on midway of head and body length excluding the beak. Steeply rising forehead with short but distinct neck. Tail fluke is notched in the middle and placed horizontally. Pectoral flippers are more or less triangular in shape. Eyes are small like pin holes. On the top of the head there is a blowhole in a shape of a longitudinal slit. Colour of the body varies from slaty to sooty black dorsally, while lighter ventrally. The auditory senses are very developed. They can produce high frequency echo locating clicks. Size of rostrum and body in female is larger than male. Length varies from 2 to 52m and width of tail fluke is nearly 46cm, weight varies from 3.42 to 84 kg.

**Distribution:** It is distributed in the rivers of Ganga, Brahmaputra, Karnaphuli and Meghna within Indian Territory.

**Habit and habitat:** It is usually found at the confluence of deep flowing waters. The South Asian River Dolphin feeds on a variety of shrimps and fishes, including carp and catfish. With the help of echolocation they can capture crustaceans and fishes by navigation. They can migrate for a short distance about 20 to 30 km. They move with small groups of 3 to 5 individuals. Life span in wild is recorded about 40 years.

**Threats and protection:** Dolphin population is threatened by catch, pollution, habitat destruction, over-fishing and climate change. They are now under threats of human interference, hunting, decline in prey species, use of gill-nets, construction of dams on the river, siltation in the river, pollution of river water etc. Meat, extraction of oil from the bubbler is the main target for trade. Other threats include activities that may frighten, displace or harm these species such as underwater noise pollution from sources such as shipping traffic, wind farms, seismic surveys and military sonars. The Uttar Pradesh government in India is bringing up ancient Hindu texts in hopes of raising the community support to save the dolphins from disappearing. One of the lines being

versed from Valmiki's Ramayana, highlighted the force by which the Ganga emerged from Lord Shivji's locks and along with this force came many species such as animals, fish and the Shishumaar—the dolphin. River dolphin is a critically endangered species in India and therefore, has been included in the Schedule I Part I of the Wildlife (Protection) Act, 1972. Conservation Status - Endangered (IUCN 2012.1). It has been placed under Appendix-I of CITES.

## National Heritage Animal

**Indian Elephant / Asian Elephant.** The elephant has been first introduced by Linnaeus in 1758 at Srilanka. Scientific name is *Elephas maximus* and common name is Elephant (Eng.), Hati (Hindi & Beng.), Ana (Marathi), Aane (Kanada). Coat colour is grayish brown. The elephant is recognized as a state animal to Odisha, Kerala, Karnataka and Jharkhand.

**Sallent features:** Asian elephants are the largest living land animals in Asia. It is massive built with a long flexible proboscis ending in a single tab. The males generally possess a pair of gigantic tusks and females or some males (makhna) have no tusks, but have tushes which are small short tusks with no pulp inside, typical for female Asian elephants. About 50% of female Asian elephants have tushes, the others nothing. Double domed forehead and convex back with relatively short ear are found in Asian elephant. Height at shoulder is within range of 275 to 320 cm, length of tusk varies from 260 to 300 cm and weight of each tusk is more than 23.5 kg. The elephant may be seen dwelling on land at sea level, plains and hill tracts and also at higher altitudes up to 3660 m and its area of occupancy is greater than 2001 sq km. Asian elephants are rather long-lived, with a maximum recorded life span of 86 years.

**Distribution:** In India they are distributed in Uttaranchal, Uttar Pradesh, Odisha, West Bengal, Karnataka, Goa, Kerala, Tamil Nadu, Bihar, and North East India.

**Habit and habitat:** It prefers shady environment with easy excess to water source and grass land. They live in a variety of forests from evergreen to montane shola grass land, from moist and dry deciduous to mixed deciduous forests, from tea, coffee and cardamom plantations to thorn forests. If there is scarcity of foods, they migrate to a favourable

area for living in a specific corridor. They consume more than 270kg of vegetation in a day and spend nearly 2/3 rd of the day for feeding. Life span in wild is recorded about 60 to 70 years. Mature males live singly or in small groups. During feeding and mating, males are associated with females. In a group there may be 20 to 30 individuals consisting of male, females, sub-adult males and infants. Strong maternal bonds are observed in elephants.

**Elephant in Culture:** This animal is widely domesticated, and has been used in forestry practices for centuries and also for ceremonial purposes. Historical sources indicate that they were used during harvest seasons primarily for milling. Wild elephants attract tourist money to the areas where they can most readily be seen, but damage crops, and may enter villages to raid gardens. It plays a major role in Hinduism. The god Ganesha's head is that of an elephant, and the "blessings" of a temple elephant are highly valued. It is considered as



the mount of Lord Vishwakarma the Hindu God of creations. Elephants have been used in processions in Kerala where the animals are adorned with festive outfits. Ivory items for decoration and ornaments made up of Elephant tusks are in high demand.

**Threats and protection:** Main threats are loss of corridors, anthropogenic pressures, habitat fragmentation, hunting, rail accident, pollution, inter-specific competition, man-elephant conflict, forest fires etc. Body parts, meat, bones, tusks have high demand in international market. The Elephant is protected under Indian Wildlife (Protection) Act, 1972 in Schedule I, Part 1. Conservation Status – Endangered (IUCN2012.1). It has been placed under Appendix-I of CITES.



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# **Animal Icons of Indian States**

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# ANDHRA PRADESH

Andhra Pradesh was formed on 1st November, 1956 under the States' reorganization scheme. It is the fifth largest State with an area of 2,76,754 sq km, accounting for 8.4% of India's territory. It has a forest cover of 23.2% of the states geographical area. Having a population of 84,655,533 (Census, 2011) Andhra Pradesh lies between 12°41' and 22°N latitude and 77° and 84°40'E longitude, and is bordered by Maharashtra, Chhattisgarh and Odisha in the north, the Bay of Bengal in the East, Tamil Nadu to the south and Kamataka to the west.



## State Animal

**Black Buck** (Eng), Scientific Name *Antelope cervicapra* Linnaeus 1758, Common name Mrig (Hindi), Jinka (Telugu), Kala hiran, Sasin, Iralai Maan, Krishna Mriga (Kannada) and Kalveet (Marathi).

**Salient features:** The male posses a pair of long twisted, closely ringed and spiral horns. Females are hornless, but have thin backwardly curved spikes. Clear sexual dimorphism is noticed in Black Buck. The adult male is dorsally black in colour and throat and vent rum are white.



But female is reddish dorsally and white in vent rum with prominent white streaks alongside. The male has prominent white ring round the each eye and sub-orbital pit glands. Both the sexes possess hairs round the muzzle. Long and narrow fringed with white hairs are found on ears. Length of head and body measures from 120 to 130 cm, length of tail is within 16 to 18 cm, height at shoulder varies from 74 to 83 cm, length of horns ranges from 46 to 65 cm and weight is within ranges from 33 to 42 kg.

**Distribution:** Black buck occurs throughout India from West Bengal to Point Calimere (Tamil Nadu), Rajasthan, Punjab and Haryana excepting North East India and the West Coasts.

**Habit and habitat:** They live in a herd of 10 to 50 individuals consisting of dominant male, females, fawns and young males. They have the maximum speed of 95 km/ hr with a normal speed of 64 km/ hr. They have the sponking behaviour i.e. they can attain great speed through series of leaps, rising high in air with each bound and can cover a distance of 19 to 22 ft in each stride. During rutting the males makes mark their territories by faecal matter. Their life span is about 10 years in the wild. The female gives birth normally to a single offspring. Their preferred habitat is arid and semi arid area with open grass land waste lands with thin cover. This social and gregarious animal generally uses open grass land for their grazing. They are diurnal in feeding activity and may tolerate hottest sunrays. They invade cultivated fields of nearby villages. Large carnivores like Panther, Wolves etc. are their natural predators.

**Threats and protections:** They are now under threat of agriculture, hunting, poaching, interspecific competition, grazing problem, loss of habitat, illegal trade practices etc. Skins, antler, meat etc., are traded in the local market. In this context, it can be mentioned that the Bishnoi community of Rajasthan are protecting these animals through their cultural practices. Black Buck is protected under Indian Wildlife Protection Act, 1972 in Part 1 of Schedule I, Conservation Status – Near Threatened (IUCN 2012.1). It has been included in Appendix-III of CITES.

## State Bird

**Indian Roller.** Scientific name is *Coracias benghalensis* (Linnaeus, 1758). Common name is Indian Roller / Blue Jay (Eng.), Nilkant (Hindi), Pala Pitta (Telugu).



**Salient features:** It is more or less the size of pigeon and the length is approx. 31 cm. It is bright blue bird with big head and strong beaks, brownish coloured breast, reddish brown collar on hind neck. The crown and vent are blue. The primaries are deep purplish blue with a band of pale blue. The tail is sky blue with a terminal band of Prussian blue and the central feathers are dull green. The neck and throat are purplish lilac with white shaft streaks. The bare patch around the eye is ochre in colour. The three forward toes are united at the base. Rollers have a long and compressed bill with a curved upper edge and a hooked tip. The nostril is long and exposed and there are long rectal bristles at the base of the bill. During flight, dark and pale blue portions of the wings flash as brilliant bands. Both the sexes are alike.

**Distribution:** It is a resident bird and is found through out India. It is also found on the South Asian mainland, Sri Lanka, Lakshadweep and Maldiv Islands, Southeast Asia and parts of West Asia.

**Habit and habitat:** They are found in open cultivation, grooves of trees and light forests and grasslands. It is found to move in singly or in pairs and rest normally on telegraph wire. Activity is diurnal. Main foods are insects and also frogs, lizards, small snakes, field rats and young birds. Breeding season is recorded March to June/July.

**Threats and protections:** It is locally common and is included as Schedule IV of WL (P) Act, 1972, Conservation Status – Least Concern (IUCN 2012.1).

# ARUNACHAL PRADESH

Arunachal Pradesh is situated in the North-Eastern part of India with 83743 sq. kms area. It stretches from snow-capped mountains in the north to the plains of Brahmaputra valley in the south. Arunachal is the largest state area-wise in the North East region. It is having a forest cover of 61.55% of its geographical area. It is situated between latitude 26° 30' N and 29° 30' N and longitude 91° 30' E and 97° 30' E. Population of the State is 13.8 Lakh (Census, 2011).



## State Animal

**Hoolock Gibbon.** Scientific name *Bunopithecus hoolock hoolock* (Harlan, 1834) and commonly known as Hoolock Gibbon (Eng.), Hulu (Khasi), Heru (Garo). It was first reported by Harlan, 1834 at Garo Hills, Meghalaya. It is the only lesser ape found in India.

**Salient features:** This ape is slender bodied with long arms which is approximately double the length of legs and no tail. Head and Body length varies from 450 to 630 mm and weight varies from 6.00 to 7.9 kg



and 6.0 kg in male and female respectively. They are very agile. There are distinct colour variations among male and female individual. Male is black in colour with white band above the eye brows and female is golden or brownish buff in colour. True sexual dimorphism is found in Hoolock Gibbon. Each group can be identified with their peculiar calls especially in the morning. Approximate 17 years life span in wild is recorded.

**Distribution:** This species is found in the states of north-eastern India like Arunachal Pradesh, Assam, Manipur, Meghalaya, Mizoram, Nagaland, and Tripura.

**Habit and habitat:** They are mainly habituated to live in an altitude of 100 to 140 m above sea level in tropical deciduous and semi-deciduous forests on the hill slopes with a small group consisting of male, female and offspring in a definite territory. During night, they take shelter in the interior forests and at dawn they come down to hill sides and take rest on the tree top for sunlight.

**Threats and protections:** The Hoolock Gibbon is also under severe threats of habitat fragmentation, loss of habitat, agriculture farming, corridor loss, encroachment of forest land for cultivation, hunting etc. Live animals, fur, met body parts are mainly listed for trades. The Hoolock Gibbon is protected under Indian Wildlife (P) Act, 1972 in Schedule I. Conservation Status – Endangered (IUCN 2011.2). It has been included in Appendix-I of CITES.

## State Bird

**Great Indian Hornbill.** Scientific name is *Buceros bicornis* Linnaeus 1758 and common name is Great Pied Hornbill (Eng.), Barndo (Hindi), Rajdhanesh (Assam), Kombam Vizhambdl (Malayalam).

**Salient features:** The size is more or less the size of a vulture and its length of a mature male is approx. 130 cm to the tip of bill and the female is some what smaller. It is large black and white hornbill with enormous horn-shaped yellow and black bill surmounted by a ponderous concave topped casque. The white neck and wing bars and black band in the white tail are the diagnostic characters. The casque appears U-shaped when viewed from the front and the top is concave with two ridges along the sides that form points in the front, a reference to which is made in the Latin species epithet *bicornis*. Females are



smaller than males and have bluish-white instead of red eyes although the orbital skin is pinkish. Like other hornbills, they have prominent “eyelashes”. The back of the casque is reddish in females while the underside of the front and back of the casque is black in males.

**Distribution:** The distribution of the species is fragmented over its range in South and Southeast Asia. In India it is a resident bird and is found in Maharashtra, Goa, Karnataka, Tamil Nadu, and Kerala and from Kumaon eastwards through Assam, Arunachal Pradesh, Nagaland, Manipur and Mizoram.

**Habit and habitat:** Their preferred habitat is evergreen and moist deciduous forest from plains to an altitude of 1500m. They move in pairs and in small parties and their activities are noted as diurnal. They are mainly frugivorous and also take on miscellaneous animals like lizards, snakes, rats and birds. Breeding season is noted during February to April.

**Threats and protections:** Abundance status is locally common and is protected under Schedule IV of WL (P) Act, 1972. This has been marked as Near Threatened in IUCN Red List (2012.1). It has been included in Appendix-I of CITES.

# ASSAM

Assam is the gateway state to the other Northeastern states of India. Situated between 90-96 degree East Longitude and 24-28 degree North Latitude, Assam is bordered in the North and East by the Kingdom of Bhutan and Arunachal Pradesh. Along the south lie Nagaland, Manipur and Mizoram. Meghalaya lies to her South-West, Bengal and Bangladesh to her West. It is having an area of 78,438 km<sup>2</sup> with a population of 31,169,272 (Census, 2011), and a forest cover of 34.45% of its geographical area.



অসম চৰকাৰ



GOVERNMENT OF ASSAM

## State Animal

**Indian One Horned Rhinoceros.** Scientific name *Rhinoceros unicornis* Linnaeus 1758. Common name is Great one Horned Rhinoceros (Eng.). Gainda ( Hindi) and Gor ( Assamese).

**Salient features:** It is a largest terrestrial mammal next to elephant. Length from snout to tip of the tail is 3.9 m approx., height at shoulder is 1.8 m approx., and length of horn varies from 30 to 60 cm. and weight is about 1650 kg in male and weight of horn varies from 2



to 2.5 kg. It is a odd-toed ungulate. Indian Rhino is in possession of one dermal stout horn on its snout with strong and strong limbs. Its head is boat shaped. The snout and skin are folded into very prominent large shields behind and before shoulders, in front of thigh and on buttock. Only tails and ears posses hairs. Coat colour is blackish grey. Horn is a mass of agglutinated or compressed hairs made up of keratin fibres forming a hard cemented mass. The horn is basically for defensive purpose and not connected with the skeleton.

**Distribution:** They are presently found in West Bengal and Assam in India, though they were recorded throughout Indo- Gangetic plains along the base of Himalayan ranges. Also found in the protected areas of Terai of Nepal.

**Habit and habitat:** They are both diurnal and nocturnal. It is a habit of all rhino of a particular area defecating in a fixed place. Normally they lead a solitary life, but in some cases, several individuals may occupy the same area. They can be seen up to an altitude of 200m and each rhino needs approximately 501 to 2000 sq km. Their life span in wild is recorded as about 70 years.

**Threats and protections:** They prefer the alluvial plain grasslands of the Terai and Brahmaputra basin. It is under threat of floods, human interference, grazing, hunting, trade corridor loss, low breeding rate, transmission of foot and mouth diseases from domestic cattle etc. Its horn, tail, body parts, hooves, urine, blood etc. are demand in national and international market. Rhinoceros is protected under Indian Wildlife (P) Act, 1972 as Schedule I, Part I. Categorized as Vulnerable in IUCN Red List (2012.1). It has been included in Appendix-I of CITES.

## State Bird

**White Winged Wood Duck.** Scientific name: *Asarcornis scutulata* (Müller, 1842). It is known as 'Deo Hans'(Spirit Duck) in Assamese, due to its ghost like call.

**Salient features:** This is one of the largest species of duck. Length is 66–81 cm (26–32 in) and wingspan is 116–153 cm (46–60 in). Males weigh 2.95–3.9 kg (6.5–8.6 lb), while females weigh 1.95–3.05 kg (4.3–6.7 lb). The most noticeable feature on adult birds is a dark body contrasting with a whitish head and neck. Males have mostly dull yellowish bill, blackish mottling on head and upper neck, white lesser



and median coverts and inner edges of tertials and bluish-grey secondaries. Females are smaller and usually have more densely mottled head and upper neck.

**Distribution:** In India, the duck is found only in the northeastern part of the country with main concentration in eastern Assam and adjacent areas of Arunachal Pradesh.

**Habit and habitat:** They are known to feed only at night. Its diet consists of seeds, aquatic plants, grain, rice, snails, small fish and insects. It inhabits stagnant or slow-flowing natural and artificial wetlands, within or adjacent to evergreen, deciduous or swamp forests, on which it depends for roosting and nesting, usually in tree-holes. Although lowlands provide optimum habitat, it occurs especially on sluggish perennial rivers and pools.

**Threats and protections:** It is threatened due to habitat loss, small population size, and hunting for food. In India, the key protected areas for the White-winged Duck are Dibru-Saikhowa National Park, Dihing-Patkai Wildlife Sanctuary, Nameri National Park and Namdapha National Park. It is protected under Indian Wildlife (P) Act, 1972 as Schedule I and categorized as Endangered in IUCN Red List (2012.1). It is listed in Appendix I of CITES.

# BIHAR

Bihar is located in the eastern part of the country Latitude 24°-20'-10" - 27°-31'-15" N, Longitude 82°-19'-50" - 88°-17'-40" E. Area 94,163.00 sq kms Bihar lies mid-way between the humid West Bengal in the east and the sub humid Uttar Pradesh in the west which provides it with a transitional position in respect of climate, economy and culture. It is bounded by Nepal in the north and by Jharkhand in the south. The Bihar plain is divided into two unequal halves by the river Ganga which flows through the middle from west to east. It is having a forest cover of 06.87% of its geographical area. Population 10, 38, 04,637 (Census, 2011).



## State Animal:

**Gaur.** Scientific name *Bos frontalis* Lambert 1804 and common name is Indian Bison or Gaur (Eng.), Gaur (Hindi), Kadu (Kannada). Many of the authors however consider it as *Bos gaurus*.

**Salient features:** The gaur is the largest among all wild Bovine



species. The gaur has a high convex ridge on the forehead between the horns, which bends forward, causing a deep hollow in the profile of the upper part of the head. There is a prominent ridge on the back. The ears are very large; the tail only just reaches the hocks. The male bears strong curved horns with flattened at the base. Females have smaller horns. A bulging grey-tan ridge connects the horns on the forehead. Limbs are shorter in comparison to large body and possess white stockings. Colour of body varies with sex and ages. Older bulls are jet black colour and young bulls and females are light brown to coffee in colour. Eyes colour is brown. The animals have a distinct ridge running from the shoulders to the middle of the back; the shoulders may be as much as 12 centimetres higher than the rump. This ridge is caused by the great length of the spinous processes of the vertebrae of the fore-part of the trunk as compared with those of the loins. The hair is short, fine and glossy, and the hooves are narrow and pointed. Height at shoulder varies from 175 to 220 cm in males and from 160 to 170 cm in females. Spreads of horns are recorded from 80 to 90 cm. and maximum weight is recorded up to 900kg. Males are about one-fourth larger and heavier than females.

**Distribution:** Widely distributed in southern, central eastern and in north-eastern parts of India.

**Habit and habitat:** They have been found up to an altitude of even 2000m and are considered as a good grazer as well as good browse. They are living on hill slopes and dwell in dense tropical forest interspersed with glades or open meadows. Their main foods are grasses, leaves and bark also. Their foraging activities are noticed from late evening to early morning. Gaur plays an important role in nature's ecosystem by checking the overgrowth of various types of grasses and returns the nutritive materials to the forest through faecal matter. Generally the bull leads solitary life except in rutting and fights with other bull for possession of cows. They live in a herd consisting of 5 to 15 individuals. Some times more than 60 individuals are found in a herd.

**Threats and protections:** The gaur is now under threat of habitat fragmentation, trade, hunting, poaching, disease, competition with domestic stock for food, human interference etc. Its meat, horns, skins, body parts are heavy demand in the local market. Gaur is protected under Indian Wildlife (P) Act, 1972 as Schedule I, Part 1 and listed as Vulnerable, A2cd+3cd+4cd in IUCN Red List (2012.1). It is listed in Appendix I of CITES.

## State Bird

**Parakeet** - Many species of parakeets are found in India. Commonly called parrots (Eng.) and tota (Hindi). They are the most intelligent birds, and have the ability to imitate human voices.



**Salient features:** All the Indian species of parakeets are chiefly green. They have a strong and stout hooked beak. They have strong legs with and clawed zygodactylous feet with 2 toes in front and 2 behind which are adapted for climbing among branches. Their tongue is thick and fleshy. Upper mandible is loosely articulated with the skull and capable of kinetic movement. Lower mandible is short and blunt. Many parrots are vividly coloured, and some are multi-coloured. They have 10 Primaries and 12 tail-feathers with brightly plumage. Tail is very long and graduated. The median feathers are narrow, pointed and much exceeding the others in length. Most parrots with some exception exhibit sexual dimorphism.

**Distribution:** Parrots are distributed all along India from Punjab along Himalayan foothills, bhabar, terai and duars across Gangetic plain to Assam, Nagaland and Manipur, through Gujarat, Andhra Pradesh, Madhya Pradesh and Odisha.

**Habit and habitat:** They feed on seeds, nuts, fruit, grains, buds and other plant material. A few species sometimes eat animals and carrion. They are regarded as most abundant and destructive bird pests of agriculture and horticulture. Almost all parrots nest in tree hollows (or nest boxes in captivity), and lay white eggs from which hatch antiracial (helpless) young. Breeding season is generally noted from December to April.

**Threats and protections:** They are trapped for the pet trade, as well as hunted. Habitat and competition from invasive species, has diminished wild populations. Parrots are being subjected to more exploitation than any other group of birds. Some species of parakeets are protected under wild Life (Protection) act 1972.

# CHHATTISGARH

Chhattisgarh is the 10th-largest state in India with an area of 52,199 sq mile (135,190 km<sup>2</sup>). It has a population of 25,540,196 (Census, 2011). Chhattisgarh lies between latitude 17°47' and 24°06' N and longitude 80°15' and 84°24' E. Chhattisgarh borders the states of Madhya Pradesh on the northwest, Maharashtra on the west, Andhra Pradesh on the south, Odisha on the east, Jharkhand on the northeast and Uttar Pradesh on the north. It is having a forest cover of 44.21% of its geographical area.



## State Animal

**Wild Buffalo.** Scientific name is *Bubalus bubalis* (Linnaeus 1758) and commonly known as Wild buffalo (Eng.), Jangli Bhainsh / Van Bhainsa (Hindi). The wild species has been considered by the ICZN (2003) as *Bubalus arnee*.

**Salient features:** It has magnificent horns spreading outward horizontally. Horns are semi-circular and ridged transversely, It extends



up to the length of 92 cm. Legs are dirty white above the hocks and knees. Hooves are light in colour. Coat is dark slate conlured with black short hairs. Head and body length varies from 250 to 300 cm tail length is 60 to 100 cm, height at shoulder varies from 150 to 200 cm and weight varies from 900 to 1000kg.

**Distribution:** In India they are also found in grass jungles of Arunachal Pradesh, Meghalaya, Odisha and Madhya Pradesh.

**Habit and habitat:** Their preferred habitat is low swampy ground, reverine tall grass jungle and mixed forests. Their favourite foods are bush grasses and vegetation growing besides rivers and lakes. Sometimes they enter the crop field of near by villages for feeding. Mainly they graze at dusk and dawn wandering long distance for grazing. During hot part of day and night they take rest for their wallows. Though the Bulls are found moving solitary, but during rutting, they join with the herd. Sometimes it is seen that bulls are moving with domesticated cows during rut.

**Threats and protections:** The wild buffalo is now under threat of disease, floods, human interference, trade, hunting, poaching, habitat loss etc. Met, skin, horns, body parts are sold in the local market resulting declination of natural population. Restriction on grazing of domesticated varieties in the forest may save the wild buffalo from dreaded disease of rinderpest, foot and mouth disease. Strict vigilance in the forest is very necessary to save this species. The wild buffalo is protected under Indian Wildlife (P) Act, 1972 by placing it in Schedule I and Part 1. *Bubalus arnee* has been incorporated as Endangered in the IUCN Red List (2012.1) and included in Appendix- III of CITES.

## State Bird

**Hill Myna.** Scientific name is *Gracula religiosa* Linnaeus 1758 and common name is Common Hill Myna (Eng.), Pahari Myna (Hindi), Mayna Gashim (Cachar).

**Salient features:** It is more or less the size of a Myna and length is approx. 29cm. Sexes are alike. It is jet black myna with bright orange-yellow patches of necked skin and fleshy wattles on sides of head and nape. A broad white band on primaries is seen.

**Distribution:** It is a resident bird and is found in Kumaon eastwards to Sikkim, Assam, Meghalya, Manipur and Nagaland.



**Habit and habitat:** They live in tropical moist deciduous and semi-evergreen forests up to an altitude of 2000m. They are very sociable and noisy and move in a flock of 5 to 8 individuals. They are diurnal in habit and mainly feed on fruits, berries, wild figs, flower nectar and insects. Breeding season is April to July.

**Threats and protections:** Abundance status is locally common and is protected under Schedule I, Part- III of WL (P) Act, 1972. Conservation status - Least Concern in the IUCN (2012.1) and included in Appendix-II of CITES.

# GOA

**Goa** is India's smallest state by area. Located in South West India in the region known as the Konkan, it is bounded by the state of Maharashtra to the North and by Karnataka to the East and South, while the Arabian Sea forms its western coast. Goa encompasses an area of 3,702 km<sup>2</sup> with a population of 1,457,723 (Census, 2011). It lies between the latitudes 14°53'54" N and 15°40'00" N and longitudes 73°40'33" E and 74°20'13" E. It is having a forest cover of 38.50% of its geographical area.



## State Animal

**Indian Bison.** Scientific name is *Bos gaurus* Lambert 1804 and common name is or Gaur (Eng.), Gaur (Hindi), Kannada (Kadu). Many of the authors however consider it as *Bos gaurus*.

**Salient features:** The gaur is the largest among all wild Bovine species. The gaur has a high convex ridge on the forehead between the horns, which bends forward, causing a deep hollow in the profile of the upper part of the head. There is a prominent ridge on the back. The



ears are very large; the tail only just reaches the hocks. The male bears strong curved horns with flattened at the base. Females have smaller horns. A bulging grey-tan ridge connects the horns on the forehead. Limbs are shorter in comparison to large body and possess white stockings. Colour of body varies with sex and ages. Older bulls are jet black colour and young bulls and females are light brown to coffee in colour. Eyes colour is brown. The animals have a distinct ridge

running from the shoulders to the middle of the back; the shoulders may be as much as 12 centimetres higher than the rump. This ridge is caused by the great length of the spinous processes of the vertebrae of the fore-part of the trunk as compared with those of the loins. The hair is short, fine and glossy, and the hooves are narrow and pointed. Height at shoulder varies from 175 to 220 cm in males and from 160 to 170 cm in females. Spreads of horns are recorded from 80 to 90 cm. and maximum weight is recorded up to 900kg. Males are about one-fourth larger and heavier than females.

**Distribution:** Widely distributed in southern, central eastern and in north-eastern parts of India.

**Habit and habitat:** They have been found up to an altitude of even 2000m and are considered as a good grazer as well as good browse. They are living on hill slopes and dwells in dense tropical forest interspersed with glades or open meadows. Their main foods are grasses, leaves and bark also. Their foraging activities are noticed from late evening to early morning. Gaur plays an important role in nature's ecosystem by checking the overgrowth of various types of grasses and returns the nutritive materials to the forest through faecal matter. Generally the bull leads solitary life except in rutting and fights with other bull for possession of cows. They live in a herd consisting of 5 to 15 individuals. Some times more than 60 individuals are found in a herd.

**Threats and protections:** The gaur is now under threat of habitat fragmentation, trade, hunting, poaching, disease, competition with domestic stock for food, human interference etc. It's meat, horns, skins, body parts are heavy demand in the local market. Gaur is protected under Indian Wildlife (P) Act, 1972 as Schedule I, Part 1 animal. Conservation status - Vulnerable A2cd+3cd+4cd IUCN (2011.2). It is included in Appendix- I of CITES.

## State Bird

**Ruby Throated Yellow Bulbul.** It is a state bird of Goa. It was first described by Gould in 1835 as *Brachypus gularis* at Travancore. Common name is Ruby Throated Yellow Bulbul (Eng.) and Manikantan in Malayalam.

**Salient features:** Size is about 18cm. Wing measures 73-79mm and tail measures 68-74 mm in male and 67-69 mm in female in length. Bill length varies from 15-16 mm and is brownish black. Iris is creamy



white and mouth is of yellowish pink. Their legs, feet and claws are brown. It is an olive-yellow and bright yellow bulbul with black uncrested head, conspicuous whitish eye and ruby-red throat. Both sexes are alike.

**Distribution:** They are the resident birds of Goa and also found in western Mysore from Belgaum south through Kerala and adjacent parts of Tamil Nadu. This bird is endemic to India.

**Habit and habitat:** They keep in touch with each other by a low, churring note constantly uttered. Their main foods are berries, figs and insects. They are mainly arboreal in nature and collect foods from the forest canopy. They have been recorded in lowlands and foothill up to the height of approx. 1000m. They usually avoid cultivation lands and are mostly found in evergreen forest, mixed bamboo and evergreen or with secondary jungle and tangles of *Minosa*, *Lantana* etc. During breeding periods, they are seen moving in pairs or in small parties. Otherwise they remain silent, shy and retiring. Breeding season is recorded from January to August, but mainly in February to April. Generally they lay two eggs at a time. They build nest in low bushes between 1 to 3 meters height from the ground. Nest looks like a very small cup, which is made with yellow dead leaves bound lightly with cobweb and grass stalks and a slight lining of grass. It looks like a casual wind-blown accumulation of rubbish.

**Threats and protections:** Their habitats are also disturbed due to eradication of forests and other anthropogenic activities. They are illegally hunted for pet, which are high value in national and international market. This bird is protected under Wild Life (Protection) Act 1972.

# GUJARAT

**Gujarat** is a state in western India. It has an area of 196,030 km<sup>2</sup> with a coastline of 1,600 km, and a population in excess of 60,383,628 (Census, 2011). The state is bordered by Rajasthan to the north, Maharashtra to the south, Madhya Pradesh to the east and the Arabian Sea as well as the Pakistani province of Sindh on the west. It is having a forest cover of 09.75% of its geographical area



## State Animal

**Asiatic Lion.** Scientific name *Panthera leo persica* (Linnaeus 1758) and common name is Asiatic Lion (Eng.), Sinha (Gujarti), Babbar Sher (Hindi), Singha (Bengali).

**Salient features:** It is a powerfully built majestic and gracious cat. Fore limbs are stronger than hind limbs with long muzzles. Ears are



uniformly round with black marks on the basal part of back side. The male has beautiful mane with pale blonde to jet black in colour over the broad head. Coat colour varies from yellowish brown to sandy grey. Long tail ends to a tassel of hairs. Iris is yellow or amber. Head and body length is within 140 to 250 cm length of hair is from 70 to 105 cm, length of hind foot is about 35cm, height at shoulder ranges from 80 to 110 cm and weight is within 120 to 250 kg.

**Distribution:** They are presently restricted to Gir Forest in Kathiana region of Gujarat. The Asiatic lion is endemic to India.

**Habit and habitat:** Their preferred habitat are dry deciduous , scrub jungle or dry savannah type forest with teak, acacia, bamboo, thorny of bushes. Modern habitat of the Asiatic lion is largely limited to the Gir Forest sanctuary in North Western India. The Gir Forest National Park of western India has about 411 lions (as of April, 2011) which live in a 1,412 km<sup>2</sup> (545 sq mi) sanctuary covered with scrub and open deciduous forest habitats.

**Threats and protections:** This animal is also under threat of disease, catastrophic events, grazing, mining, agriculture, inbreeding etc. Canines and claws, bones, whiskers, other body parts are very demand in the international market. These Indian big cats lost most of their open jungle and grassland habitat in India to the rising human population which almost completely converted their entire habitat in the plains of India into farmland. Asiatic Lion is protected under Indian Wildlife (P) Act, 1972 as Schedule I, Part 1, Conservation Status – Vulnerable A2abcd (IUCN 2012.1)and included in Appendix-I of CITES.

## State Bird

**Greater Flamingo.** Scientific name is *Phoenicopterus ruber*. It was first described by Linnaeus in 1758 at mouth of Volga River, south Russia. Commonly known as Greater Flamingo (Eng.), Bag Hans (Hindi), Hanj Pakkhi (Gujarat).

**Salient features:** It is more or less the size of a vulture and height at standing posture is approx. 140 cm from foot to top of head. It is a tall, long legged, long necked stork like marsh bird, rosy white with bright scarlet and black wings and massive pink bill sharply down curved from about half of its length. Sexes are alike, but the female is slightly smaller in size and paler in colour.



**Distribution:** It is mainly a resident bird, but it is nomadic and migrates locally. They are found through out India except Assam and West Bengal.

**Habit and habitat:** They prefer large jheels, brackish lakes and lagoons, salt pans, estuaries and tidal mud flats on the sea-coast. They are highly gregarious in nature and are found in small or large flocks. Their activities are noted as diurnal and feed on small mollusks, crustaceans, seeds, and small fishes. Breeding season is September/October to March/April.

**Threats and protections:** It is locally common and is protected under Schedule IV of WL (P) Act, 1972. Conservation Status – Least Concern (IUCN 2012.1).

# HARYANA

Haryana is located between 27°37' to 30°35' N latitude and between 74°28' and 77°36' E longitude. The altitude of Haryana varies from 200 metres to 1200 metres above sea level. The state of Haryana has an area of 44212 sq km. An area of 1,553 km<sup>2</sup> is covered by forest. The population of Haryana is 25,353,081, according to the 2011 census, human population density is 573.4 /km<sup>2</sup>.



## State Animal

**Black Buck.** (Eng), Scientific Name *Antelope cervicapra* Linnaeus 1758, Common name Mrig (Hindi), Jinka (Telugu), Kala hiran, Sasin, Iralai Maan, Krishna Mriga (Kannada) and Kalveet (Marathi).

**Salient features:** The male posses a pair of long twisted, closely ringed and spiral horns. Females are hornless, but have thin backwardly



curved spikes. Clear sexual dimorphism is noticed in Black Buck. The adult male is dorsally black in colour and throat and vent rum are white. But female is reddish dorsally and white in vent rum with prominent white streaks alongside. The male has prominent white ring round the each eye and sub-orbital pit glands. Both the sexes possess hairs round the muzzle. Long and narrow fringed with white hairs are found on ears. Length of head and body measures from 120 to 130 cm, length of tail is within 16 to 18 cm, height at shoulder varies from 74 to 83 cm, length of horns ranges from 46 to 65 cm and weight is within ranges from 33 to 42 kg.

**Distribution:** Black buck occurs through out India from West Bengal to Point Calimere (Tamil Nadu), Rajasthan, Punjab and Haryana excepting North East India and the West Coasts

**Habit and habitat:** They live in a herd of 10 to 50 individuals consisting of dominant male, females, fawns and young males. They have the maximum speed of 95 km/ hr with a normal speed of 64 km/ hr. They have the spronking behaviour i.e. they can attain great speed through series of leaps, rising high in air with each bound and can cover a distance of 19 to 22 ft in each stride. During rutting the males makes mark their territories by faecal matter. Their life span is about 10 years in the wild. The female gives birth normally to a single offspring. Their preferred habitat is arid and semi arid area with open grass land waste lands with thin cover. This social and gregarious animal generally uses open grass land for their grazing. They are diurnal in feeding activity and may tolerate hottest sunrays. They invade cultivated fields of nearby villages. Large carnivores like Panther, Wolves etc. are their natural predators.

**Threats and protections:** They are now under threat of agriculture, hunting, poaching, interspecific competition, grazing problem, loss of habitat, illegal trade practices etc. Skins, antler, meat etc., are traded in the local market. In this context, it can be mentioned that the Bishnoi community of Rajasthan are protecting these animals through their cultural practices. Black Buck is protected under Indian Wildlife Protection Act, 1972 in Part 1 of Schedule I, Conservation Status – Near Threatened (IUCN 2012.1). It has been listed under Appendix- III of CITES.



## State Bird

**Black Partridge or Black Francolin.** Scientific name *Francolinus francolinus*. This was discovered by Linnaeus in 1766 from Arsu, Kulu, and Punjab. Common name is Black Francolin (Eng.), Kala Teeter (Hindi), Kala Tetra (Garhwal).

**Salient features:** It is more or less in size of Grey Partridge and length is approx. 34 cm. Female is more or less similar in colour like male, but is more pale and brown. The male is with jet black scalloped, spotted and barred white and fulvous above. Cheek is patches white, collar is chestnut and under parts is jet black with chest nut belly and under tail coverts.

**Distribution:** It is also resident bird of Kashmir, Punjab, Uttaranchal, Uttar Pradesh, Bihar, West Bengal, Gujarat, Madhya Pradesh and Odisha.

**Habit and habitat:** They are mainly found in well watered tracts-high grass land, tamarisk jungle, cultivation of millets and sugarcane between plain lands up to 2000 m altitude. They are moving in singly or in a group of 3 to 5 individuals or in a pair. They are diurnal in habit and omnivorous in feeding. Breeding season is March to October.

**Threats and protections:** Destruction of habitats, poaching and due to other anthropogenic action the population is declining. It is included as Schedule IV of WL (P) Act, 1972. Conservation Status – Least Concern (IUCN 2011.2).

# HIMACHAL PRADESH

Himachal Pradesh is situated in the western Himalayas. Covering an area of 55,673 sq kilometres (34,594 sq. mile). Forest areas constitute about 66.52% of the area of Himachal Pradesh. It is a mountainous state with elevation ranging from about 350 metres to 7,000 metres above the sea level. Himachal Pradesh has a total population of 6,856,509 (Census, 2011). Population density is 109 per sq. kilometer.



## State Animal

**Snow Leopard.** This was first discovered by Schreber in 1775 at Kopet-Dagh Mountains, adjacent to Iran as *Felis uncia*. It is commonly known as Snow leopard in English and Bharal-he in Hindi and present scientific name is *Uncia uncia* (Schreber, 1775).

**Salient features:** Length head and body is 100-150cm, tail is 90-105 cm, hind foot is 23-26 cm and height at shoulder is about 50-60cm. It possesses squarish head with high forehead, vertical chin and short



muzzle. Limbs are short but stout with well padded paws having hairy cushions to withstand the snow. Disproportionate long and upwardly curved tufted and spotted tail is the important character of this species. Some times spots form incomplete rings. Coat colour is pale grey above, bearing dark spots grouped into 'rousettes', but undersurface is white occasionally with a few light spots. But head, nape and lower parts of the limbs possess solid small and darker spots. Ears are short and rounded with black in tip and margin and yellow spots on each of them.

**Distribution:** It is distributed from Jammu and Kashmir to Sikkim and further east to Arunachal Pradesh.

**Habit and habitat:** It inhabits at snow-capped high altitudes of the Himalayas at about 3000-5500m between alpine coniferous forests above tree line and snow and home range is about 19sq.kms. They may be sighted in inaccessible highly rugged terrains of cold and arid ecosystems. It prefers to remain in solitary and can travel widely to hunt markhor, tahr, ibex, marmots, hares, birds and also live stock near human habitation. Usually, it is nocturnal in behaviour, but it takes shelter in a natural cavern or cleft beneath overhanging rocks. It may be seen on rocks for bathing and emits rumble and coughing roar.

**Threats and protections:** Its population is declining with general decline. They are under threat of interspecific competition, habitat fragmentation, hunting, trade, declination of prey species, illegal poaching etc. Trades are concerned with Skin, live animal, fur, body parts, winter pelt for making dress, hand bags, gloves, cushion covers etc. It is included under Appendix-1 of CITES and in Schedule -I, Part-I of Indian Wildlife (P) Act, 1972. Conservation Status – Endangered (IUCN 2012.1) and included in Appendix- I of CITES.

## State Bird

**Western Tragopan.** Scientific name *Tragopan melanocephalus* Gray, 1829. This bird is locally called *Jujurana* which means King of Birds.

**Salient features:** The male is very dark, grey and black with numerous white spots, each spot bordered with black and deep crimson patches on the sides and back of the neck. The throat is bare with blue skin while the bare facial skin is red. They have a small black occipital crest. Females have pale brownish-grey upper parts finely vermiculated and spotted with black, and most of the feathers have

black patches and central white streaks. Immature males resemble females, but are larger in size with longer legs and variable amount of black on head and red on neck. Males weigh 1.8–2.2 kg (4.0–4.9 lb) and females weigh 1.25–1.4 kg (2.8–3.1 lb). The males vary in length from 55–60 cm (22–24 in) while the females are 48–50 cm (19–20 in).

**Distribution:** Their range is very restricted. In some parts of Jammu and Kashmir, Himachal Pradesh and Uttarakhand. They are found at an altitude of 1,750m to 3,600m.



**Habit and habitat:** They prefer dense under storey of temperate, subalpine and broad-leaved forest. It inhabits upper temperate forests between 2,400 and 3,600 m in summer, and in winter, dense coniferous and broad-leaved forests between 2,000 to 2,800 m elevations. The Western Tragopan is mostly arboreal but feeds on the ground. They feed mostly on leaves, shoots, seeds, but also consume insects and other invertebrates. Like most of the pheasants, they roost in trees singly or in pairs except during nesting. The males during display show the throat inflated into lappets that appear purple with pink margins. During the display they call and the song is a loud two-note ringing *wou-weee* which is repeated every second for long periods. The breeding season is May–June. They build their nests in low tree hollows.

**Threats and protections:** They are sensitive to anthropogenic disturbance and avoid disturbed habitats. The Western Tragopan is considered the rarest of all living pheasants. Population is threatened by several anthropogenic factors throughout its range. The world population is estimated at less than 5,000 individuals. CITES has listed this species in Appendix I in order to discourage selling of its feathers. Schedule –I of Indian Wildlife (P) Act, 1972. Conservation Status – Vulnerable C2a(i) (IUCN 2012.1).

# JAMMU AND KASHMIR

Jammu and Kashmir is the Northern most state of India. It is situated mostly in the Himalayan Mountains. Jammu and Kashmir shares a border with the states of Himachal Pradesh and Punjab to the south. It is having a total area of 222,236 km<sup>2</sup> and a population of 12,548,926 (Census, 2011) with a population density of 56/km<sup>2</sup>. It lies between 32.17° and 36.58° northern latitude and 76.26° and 80.30° eastern longitudes. It is having a forest cover of about 20.00% of its geographical area.



## State Animal

**Kashmir Stag.** (Eng). Scientific name is *Cervus elaphus hanglu*. It was described for the first time by Linnaeus in 1758 at Southern Sweden. Commonly known as Hungul , Hangul (male) and Minyama (Female). It is one of the sub-species of Red Deer, *Cervus elaphus*.

**Salient features:** It is a large deer. Tail is short and fawn is spotted. Length of Head and Body varies from 190 to 232 cm. Height at shoulder is from 120 to 130cm and length of antlers varies from 100 to 130cm. weight is about 180 kg. Pelage colour is from light to dark brown during winter. But in summer, it turns to fade to white on lips, chin and under parts. A white rump patch extends to short distance over tail and ultimately divides by a broad median stripe down to the base or even extremity of the short tail. It has a pair of magnificently spread antlers with 5 or 6 or even



more tines. Brow tines are curved upwards. Their life span is recorded as 10 years in the wild.

**Distribution:** It is endemic to India. It was recorded in Jammu and Kashmir and to some extent in north Chamba district of Himachal Pradesh. Now at present it is found in northern and eastern valleys of Kashmir and is restricted in Dachigam National Park near Srinagar. The Kashmir stag may be seen at an altitude up to 15 km in the valley. In winter, generally they are found in an altitude between 1450 to 2480m and in summer, within 3000 to 4000m. Some times, Kashmir stag may migrate at an altitude up to 15 km in the valley.

**Habit and habitat:** Hungul is very shy and at a slightest alarm, they leave place with a great speed to nearby bushes. The stag shed their antlers during march-April and develops fully grown during September-October i.e. during rutting season They are found in small herd consisting of 5 to 15 individuals and stag lives with harem. But during winter, they form a large herd. They prefer to live in dense riverine forests.

**Threats and protections:** Their predators are Black Bear, Brown Bear, Snow Leopard and Leopard. The Kashmir Stag is also under threat of interspecific competition, trade, hunting, predation, habitat fragmentation, corridor and habitat loss etc. Horn, meat, skins are very demand in the National and International market. The Hungul is protected under Indian Wildlife (P) Act, 1972 as Schedule I, Part 1. IUCN categorized *Cervus elaphus* as Least Concern (2012.1) and included in Appendix-I of CITES.

## State Bird

**Black Necked Crane.** Scientific name is *Grus nigricollis*, it was first described by Przevalski in 1876 at Koko-nor. Common name is Black Necked Crane (Eng.), Kutung (Ladakh).

**Salient features:** It is more or less the size of Goose and the height is approx. 156 cm. Both the sexes are alike, but the female is slightly smaller than male. It is a large and tall stork like grey bird with black head and neck. Lore and entire naked crown dull red.

**Distribution:** It is seen to breed in Ladakh and in Arunachal Pradesh during winter. During summer it is found in high altitude lake



environment and prefer open fallow paddy fields and swampy land during winter.

**Habit and habitat:** They are diurnal in activity and keep in pairs or in small party. Their preferred food is fallow grains, shoots, grass, tubes, cereal crops, insects and small reptiles. Breeding season is recorded as May to June

**Threats and protections:** Loss and degradation of habitat are the main threats. . The problems are most serious in the wintering areas, where wetlands are extensively affected by human activity including irrigation, dam construction, draining, and grazing pressure. Abundance is rare. It is included in Schedule-I of WL (P) Act, 1972. Conservation Status – Vulnerable C2a (ii) (IUCN 2012.12) and included in Appendix-I of CITES.

# JHARKHAND

Jharkhand shares its border with the states of Bihar to the north, Uttar Pradesh and Chhattisgarh to the west, Odisha to the south, and West Bengal to the east. It has an area of 79,714 sq km. Most of the state lies on the Chota Nagpur Plateau, which is the source of Koel, Damodar, Brahmani, Kharkai and Subarnarekha rivers, whose upper watersheds lie within Jharkhand. Total population of Chhattisgarh as per 2011 census is 25,540,196. Population density is 410/km<sup>2</sup>. It is having a forest cover of about 29.61 % of its geographical area.



## State Animal

**Indian Elephant.** Scientific name is *Elephas maximus*. The elephant was first described by Linnaeus in 1758 at Srilanka. Common name is Elephant (Eng.), Hati (Hindi), Ana (Marathi), Aane (Kanada).

**Salient features:** Coat colour is grayish brown. It is massive built with a long flexible proboscis ending in a single tab. The males generally possess a pair of gigantic tusks and females or some males



(makhna) have no tusks, but have tushes. Double domed forehead and rounded back with relatively short ear are found in Asian elephant. Height at shoulder is within range of 275 to 320 cm. Length of tusk varies from 260 to 300 cm and weight of each tusk is more than 23.5kg.

**Distribution:** The elephant may be seen dwelling on land at sea level, plains and hill tracts and also at higher altitudes up to 3660m and its area of occupancy is greater than 2001sq.km. In India they are distributed in Uttaranchal, Uttar Pradesh, Odisha, West Bengal, Karnataka, Goa, Kerala, Tamil Nadu, Bihar, and North East India.

**Habit and habitat:** It prefers shady environment with easy excess to water source and grass land. They live in a variety of forests from evergreen to montane shola grass land, from moist and dry deciduous to mixed deciduous forests, from tea, coffee and cardamom plantations to thorn forests. If there is scarcity of foods, they migrate to a favourable area for living in a specific corridor. They consume more than 270kg of vegetation in a day and spend nearly 2/3 rd of the day for feeding. Life span in wild is recorded about 60 to 70 years. Mature males live singly or in small groups. During feeding and mating, males are associated with females. They may roam in groups of 20 to 30 individuals consisting of male, females, sub-adult males and infants. Strong maternal bonds are observed in elephants.

**Threats and protections:** Main threats are loss of corridors, anthropogenic pressures, habitat fragmentation, hunting, rail accident, pollution, inter-specific competition, man-elephant conflict, forest fires etc. Tusks and other body parts are in heavy demand in international market. The Elephant is protected under Indian Wildlife (P) Act, 1972 as Schedule I, Part 1. Conservation Status – Endangered A2c (IUCN 2011.2). Elephant has been included in Appendix-I of CITES.

## State Bird

**Koel.** Scientific name *Eudynamys scolopacea* and it was first discovered by Linnaeus in 1758 at Malabar. Common name is Asian Koel (Eng.), Koel (Hindi).

**Salient features:** It is more or less the size of a House Crow and length is approx. 43 cm. The male has a glistening metallic black all over with yellowish green bill and crimson eyes. The female has above



dark brown, profusely white spotted and barred, tail and wings barred with white, below white spotted on chin, throat and fore neck.

**Distribution:** It is a resident bird and some times it is nomadic and local migrant. They are found all most through out India.

**Habits and habitats:** It resides in lightly wooded country, mango orchards, grooves of trees, around cultivation, towns and villages. They are diurnal in nature and keep in solitary. They mainly feed on caterpillar, bug, various insects, snails and eggs of small birds, fruits, berries etc. Breeding season is March to August.

**Threats and protections:** In spite of shrinkage and degradation of their habitat it is common but as precaution has been included under Schedule IV of WL (P) Act, 1972.

# KARNATAKA

**Karnataka** is a state in South West India. The state covers an area of 191,976 square kilometers. The State of Karnataka is within 11.5 degree North and 18.5 degree North latitudes and 74 degree East and 78.5 degree East longitude. It is the eighth largest Indian state by area, with over 61,130,704 inhabitants as per Census, 2011, with a population density of 318.7/km<sup>2</sup>. About 38,724 km<sup>2</sup> of Karnataka (i.e. 20% of the state's geographic area) is covered by forests.



## State Animal

**Spotted deer.** It was first discovered by Erxleben in 1777 at Bank of the Ganges, Bihar as *Cervus axix*. Current scientific name is *Axix axix* and common name is Spotted Deer (Eng.), Hital (Hindi) and Saranga Jinka (Kan.).

**Salient features:** Height at shoulder is about 90 cm with 101cm length head. Antler with three tines would be 80cm in south India. It is



a commonest wild deer recognized by the presence of profuse off white spots on its bright rufous fawn coat as its popular name implies. Old bucks are more brownish in colour and darker. The lower series of spots on the flanks are arranged in longitudinal rows. A long brow tine projects nearly at right angle to the beam and two branch tines at the top. The outer tine is always longer. The old bucks often have one or more false points on the brow antler where it joins the main beam. They shed their antler usually in August – September. The antlers are in velvet till the end of December. In Madhya Pradesh the pairing takes place during May-June, but in north India it is taken place during winter and the mother gives birth to a single fawn. They are prolific breeders and my form a new family within an interval of six months.

**Distribution:** It is distributed in peninsular India, northwards to Kumaon and Sikkim including West Bengal. It is also found in Assam and also found in the forests at the base of the Himalayas and introduced in Andaman Islands.

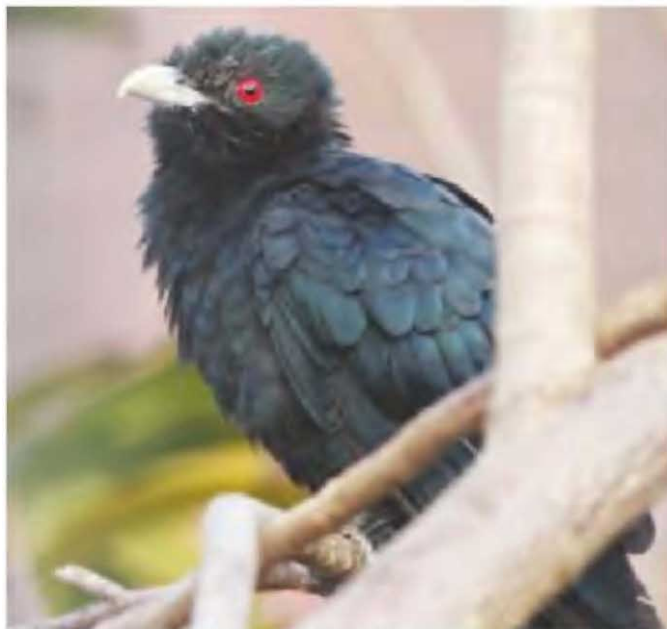
**Habits and habitats:** They are both diurnal and nocturnal in habit, lives in herds having two to three stag with ten to thirty individuals. Sometimes more than hundred individuals have been recoded. They may be seen to associate with many forest animals particularly with monkeys. They feed till late in the morning and again in the afternoon and lie down in the interval in some shaded spot. Sometimes enter in the cultivation fields and causes damage to the crops. Chital associates with beautiful scenery with grassy forest glades and shaded streams.

**Threats and protections:** They are not under threat of extinction, though their habitats are being disturbed. They are killed by the human being for flesh, skins and antlers. Deer meat and skins are sold at a high price. They have been put in schedule IV of WL (P) Act, 1972. Conservation Status – Least Concern (IUCN 2012.1).

## State Bird

**Koel.** It was first discovered by Linnaeus in 1758 at Malabar. The scientific name is *Eudynamys scolopacea* and common name is Asian Koel (Eng.), Koel (Hindi).

**Salient features:** It is more or less the size of a House Crow and length is approx. 43 cm. The male has a glistening metallic black all



over with yellowish green bill and crimson eyes. The female has above dark brown, profusely white spotted and barred, tail and wings barred with white, below white spotted on chin, throat and fore neck.

**Distribution:** It is a resident bird and some times it is nomadic and local migrant. They are found all most through out India.

**Habits and habitats:** It resides in lightly wooded country, mango orchards, grooves of trees, around cultivation, towns and villages. They are diurnal in nature and keep in solitary. They mainly feed on caterpillar, bug, various insects, snails and eggs of small birds, fruits, berries etc. Breeding season is March to August.

**Threats and protections:** Though their habitats are getting degraded it is fairly common in availability and as precaution is protected under Schedule IV of WL (P) Act, 1972.

# KERALA

Kerala is an Indian state located on the Malabar coast of south-west India. Kerala is wedged between the Lakshadweep sea and the Western Ghats. Lying between north latitudes 8°18' and 12°48' and east longitudes 74°52' and 77°22'. Kerala experiences the humid equatorial tropic climate. The state has a coast of length 590 km. The state has an area of 38,863 km<sup>2</sup>. Its 9,400 km<sup>2</sup> of forests include tropical wet evergreen and semi-evergreen forests, tropical moist and dry deciduous forests, and montane subtropical and temperate (*shola*) forests. Altogether, 24% of Kerala is forested.



## State Animal

**Indian Elephant.** The elephant has been first introduced by Linnaeus in 1758 at Srilanka. Scientific name is *Elephas maximus* and common name is Elephant (Eng.), Hati (Hindi), Ana (Marathi), Aane (Kanada).

**Salient features:** Coat colour is grayish brown. It is massive built with a long flexible proboscis ending in a single tab. The males generally possess a pair of gigantic tusks and females or some males (*makhna*) have no tusks, but have tushes. Double domed forehead and



rounded back with relatively short ear are found in Asian elephant. Height at shoulder is within range of 275 to 320 cm, length of tusk varies from 260 to 300 cm and weight of each tusk is more than 23.5 kg.

**Distribution:** In India they are distributed in Uttaranchal, Uttar Pradesh, Odisha, West Bengal, Karnataka, Goa, Kerala, Tamil Nadu, Bihar, and North East India.

**Habits and habitats:** The elephant may be seen dwelling on land at sea level, plains and hill tracts and also at higher altitudes up to 3660 m and its area of occupancy is greater than 2001 sq km. It prefers shady environment with easy access to water source and grass land. They live in a variety of forests from evergreen to montane shola grass land, from moist and dry deciduous to mixed deciduous forests, from tea, coffee and cardamom plantations to thorn forests. If there is scarcity of food, they migrate to a favourable area for living in a specific corridor. Each consume more than 270 kg of vegetation in a day and spend nearly 2/3 rd of the day for feeding. Life span in wild is recorded about 60 to 70 years. Mature males live singly or in small groups. During feeding and mating, males remain associated with females in a group of 20 to 30 individuals consisting of male, females, sub-adult males and infants. Strong maternal bonds are observed in elephants.

**Threats and protections:** Main threats are loss of corridors, anthropogenic pressures, habitat fragmentation, hunting, rail accident, pollution, inter-specific competition, man-elephant conflict, forest fires etc. Body parts, meat, bones, tusks are heavy demand in international market. The Elephant is protected under Indian Wildlife (P) Act, 1972 as Schedule I, Part 1. Conservation Status – Endangered A2c (IUCN 2011.2). It is included in Appendix – I of CITES.

## State Bird

**The Great Indian Hornbill.** Scientific name is *Buceros bicornis* Linnaeus 1758 and common name is Great Pied Hornbill (Eng.), Banrdo (Hindi), Rajdhanesh (Assam), Kombam Vizhambal (Malayalam).

**Salient features:** The size is more or less the size of a vulture and its length of a mature male is approx. 130 cm to the tip of bill and the female is some what smaller. It is large black and white hornbill with enormous horn-shaped yellow and black bill surmounted by a ponderous concave topped casque. The white neck and wing bars and



black band in the white tail are the diagnostic characters. The casque appears U-shaped when viewed from the front and the top is concave with two ridges along the sides that form points in the front, a reference to which is made in the Latin species epithet *bicornis*. Females are smaller than males and have bluish-white instead of red eyes although the orbital skin is pinkish. Like other hornbills, they have prominent “eyelashes”. The back of the casque is reddish in females while the underside of the front and back of the casque is black in males.

**Distribution:** The distribution of the species is fragmented over its range in South and Southeast Asia. In India it is a resident bird and is found in Maharashtra, Goa, Karnataka, Tamil Nadu, and Kerala and from Kumaon eastwards through Assam, Arunachal Pradesh, Nagaland, Manipur and Mizoram.

**Habit and habitat:** Their preferred habitat is evergreen and moist deciduous forest from plains to an altitude of 1500m. They move in pairs and in small parties and their activities are noted as diurnal. They are mainly frugivorous and also take on miscellaneous animals like lizards, snakes, rats and birds. Breeding season is noted during February to April.

**Threats and protections:** Abundance status is locally common and is protected under Schedule IV of WL (P) Act, 1972. Conservation status - Near threatened (IUCN 2012.1) and included in Appendix-I of CITES.

# MADHYA PRADESH

Madhya Pradesh in Hindi can be translated to *Central Province*, and it is located in the geographic heart of India. Madhya Pradesh is endowed with rich and diverse forest resources. Lying between lat. 21°04'N and long. 74°02' and 82°49' E, it is a reservoir of biodiversity. The geographical area of the state is 308,144 km<sup>2</sup>. The forest area of the state is 95,221 km<sup>2</sup> constituting 31% of the geographical area of the state.



## State Animal

**Swamp Deer or Bara Singha.** It was first discovered by G. Cuvier in 1823 at Northern India. The scientific name is *Cervus duvaucellii* and common name is Barasingha (Hindi), Swamp Deer ( Eng. ).

**Salient features:** Pelage colour varies from brown to yellowish brown in winter and chestnut in summer. Inner part of legs, rump and underside of tail is creamy white. The female and fawn are lighter in colour. Coat is fine and wooly. Neck is with mane. The male possesses a magnificent branched antlers and long narrow muzzle. Their sense of smell is very fine. Brow tine is nearly at right angle to the beam which is



unbranched for more than half of its length. Then the beam is divided and sub-divided into 10 to 14 tines. Length of head and body varies from 105 to 140 cm, tail length is within 20 to 33 cm, antler length ranges from 70 to 75 cm and girth of antler is approx. 13 cm. Weight is about 180 to 200 kg.

**Distribution:** They are found within an altitude of 100 to 200 m in Terai, Duars of North and Eastern India from Uttaranchal to Assam and another population is found in Kanha National Park and Bastar in Madhya Pradesh.

**Habit and habitat:** The habitat of swamp deer varies from Eastern and Northern India. Northern population prefers marshy lands associated with water, but Eastern Indian Populations prefer dry thatched land near water and hence are recognized as a deer of swamp. Where as Central Indian population is almost confined to dry forests and is fewer dependants on water. They avoid thick forests and feeds mainly on growing grasses at day time. During noon they take rest nearby tree shelter and start feeding again in the evening. During winter they form a large group consisting of 20 to 35 individuals of different age group and sexes. But during rutting session, the herds are divided into smaller groups of 20 to 30 hinds with one or two stags. Sometimes two stags are seen to fight with their antlers for a short period to be the master of harem. The predators of swamp deer is tiger, leopard.

**Threats and protections:** The swamp deer is under threat of human interference, habitat loss, loss of habitat, predation, hunting, floods, diseases, genetic problems like interbreeding etc. Trading is made for taxidermy model, horn, meat, antlers etc. It is protected under Indian Wildlife (P) Act, 1972 as Schedule I, Part 1. Conservation Status – Vulnerable C1 (IUCN 2012.1) as *Rucervus duvacoili*. It is enlisted under Appendix –I of CITES.

## State Bird

**Paradise Fly Catcher.** Scientific name is *Terpsiphone paradise*. It was described by Linnaeus in 1758 at Chandernagor, India. Common name is Asian Paradise Flycatcher (Eng.), Sultan Bulbul (Hindi).

**Salient features:** Its size is more or less similar to a Bulbul and the length is within 20cm and 50 cm up to the very long tail streamers. The



male after the age of 4 years has entire head, throat and crest bluish black, bill and narrow eye-rim blue, wings black and white, rest of plumage silvery white, the feathers with black outer webs and black shaft-streaks, but the male below 4 years posses rufous in colour on back, tail and streamers. The female has crown bluish black with a shorter crest, under parts rufous, throat, sides of head and nuchal collar ashy, belly white, no streamers.

**Distribution:** The southern populations are resident, but northern populations are reported to be altitudinal migrant. They are found in Indian peninsula- from Kathiawar to the hills of Kerala.

**Habit and habitat:** They are seen in well-watered and shady forest, bamboo-clad nullah, plantations and village grooves. They move in pairs or in mixed hunting flocks. They are diurnal in activity and feed on winged insects and occasionally on spiders. Breeding season is March to August.

**Threats and protections:** It is locally common and is protected under Schedule IV of WL (P) Act, 1972. Conservation Status –Least Concern (IUCN 2012.1).

# MAHARASHTRA

Maharashtra is bounded by the Arabian Sea to the west, Gujarat, Dadra and Nagar Haveli, and Madhya Pradesh to the north, Chhattisgarh to the east, Karnataka, Andhra Pradesh and Goa to the South. The state covers an area of 307,731 km<sup>2</sup> (118,816 sq mi) or 9.84% of the total geographical area of India. Having a population of about 112,372,972 (Census, 2011) and with a population density of 365.2/km<sup>2</sup>. The forest area of the state is 61,939 km<sup>2</sup> constituting 20.17% of the geographical area of the state.



## State Animal

**Giant Squirrel.** Scientific name is *Rattufa indica*. This was first described by Erxleben in 1777 at Bombay, Maharashtra. Common name is Giant Squirrel (Eng.), Motikhishholi (Gujarati).

**Salient features:** It is ardent and is largest in size among the unstriped squirrels. Body colour is very unique. It is uniform pale creamy to almost white. Hind feet is also coloured like dorsum and nape with transverse pale band. Head and body measures as 360 to 370cm. tail length vary from 408 to 417cm and length of hind feet is within 69 to 75 cm.

**Distribution:** Giant Squirrels are founded Gujarat, Western Ghats, Maharastra. Giant squirrel is endemic to India.

**Habit and habitat:** It is found in dry deciduous and moist deciduous forests on a hill slope up to the altitude of 900m (approx.). They are truly arboreal in nature and mainly occupy the



area between middle and top canopy of the forests. They are hardly seen from the ground and moves from tree to tree by beautiful leaping. Only their calls of rutting season reveal their existence in the forests. Mainly stay in pair or alone and build their nests with twigs, leaves on a branch of a number of trees with in a small area. Nests can be seen easily from a distance.

**Threats and protections:** The Giant Squirrels are also under threats of human interference, corridor loss, habitat fragmentation, hunting, destruction of forests, introduction of monocrop etc. The Giant Squirrel is protected under Indian Wildlife (P) Act, 1972 as Schedule I1, Part 11. Conservation Status – Least Concern (IUCN 2012.1) and it is included in Appendix II of CITES.

## State Bird

**Green Imperial Pigeon.** Scientific name is *Ducula aenea*. It was first discovered by Linnaeus in 1766 at Borabhum. Common name is Green Imperial Pigeon (Eng.). Bada Harial (Hindi), Dahukuruma (Cachar).

**Salient features:** Its size is more or less like a crow and length is approx. 43 cm. It is a pinkish grey pigeon overall with bright metallic bronzy green back and tail and chestnut-maroon under tail coverts. Both the sexes are alike.

**Distribution:** It is a resident bird and found in Eastern Uttar Pradesh to eastward through Bihar, Odisha to North Eastern states.

**Habit and habitat:** They are found in evergreen and moist deciduous forest and partially secondary jungle of large Ficus and wild fruit trees. Their activities are also diurnal in nature and move in singly or in pairs and in parties. They are mainly frugivorous and breeding season is March to June.

**Threats and protections:** It is locally common and is included as Schedule IV of Wild Life (P) Act, 1972. Conservation Status – Least Concern (IUCN 2012.1).



# MANIPUR

Manipur is a state in northeastern India, with the city of Imphal as its capital. Manipur is bounded by the Indian states of Nagaland to the north, Mizoram to the south and Assam to the west; it also borders Myanmar to the east. It covers an area of 22,347 square kilometres. Manipur is one of the seven sister states of Northeast India. The state lies at latitude of 23°83'N – 25°68'N and longitude of 93°03'E – 94°78'E. Manipur has a population of 27,21,756 (Census, 2011). Population density is 120/Sq.km. The natural vegetation occupies an area of about 14,365 km<sup>2</sup> which is nearly 64% of the total geographical area of the state.



## State Animal

**Sangai.** Scientific name is *Cervus eldi eldi*. This is first discovered by Mecllelland in 1842 at Manipur. Common name is Manipur Brow Antlered Deer (Eng.), Thamin (Hindi), Sangai (Manipuri).



**Salient features:** The main distinguishing feature of this deer is the development of antlers which is almost erect with closely set pedicels. There is variation in number of terminal tines from 2 to 10. Seasonal variation of colour is noticed in this deer. Shaggy, dark brown and fawn color is observed during winter and summer respectively, where as during rutting season, colour changes from reddish fawn to dark brown. Females are lighter in colour. Head and body length varies from 170 to 180 cm and Tail length ranges from 18 to 20 cm, Height at shoulder is within 105 to 120 cm, length of antlers along beam is from 100 to 108cm and weight is between 90 to 105 kg. The term 'Brow Antlered Deer' is derived from the origin of long brow tines with continuous arc with the beam of antler and absence of angular joint of brow line with main beam.

**Distribution:** It is an endemic mammal in India. It is confined to a very small swampy area comprised of moss, dead and decaying vegetation, algae, tall grasses, reeds etc. in a floating organic humus called 'Phumdi' of Loktak Lake of Keibul Lamjao National Park in Manipur.

**Habit and habitat:** Hairless horny hind pasterns and slightly spayed hooves help them to prevent from sinking in swamp, as it moves on boggy floating mat. This grassy vegetation on floating swampy forms is their ideal and favourite habitat. The thamin prefers scrub jungle and flat undulating land in between rivers and hills. 4 to 6 or even more individuals are found in a herd feeding in early morning or late evening. Life span is recorded in the wild is about 20 years.

**Threats and protections:** They are now under tremendous threats viz., habitat shrinkage, habitat fragmentation, siltation in lake, fishing practice in the lake, grazing, hunting disease etc. Population is steadily increasing due to protection of swampy habitat. The Sangai is protected under Indian Wildlife (P) Act, 1972 as Schedule I, Part 1. Conservation Status –Endangered (IUCN 2012.1). It is included on Appendix-I of CITES.

## State Bird

**Hume's Bar Tailed Pheasant.** Scientific name is *Syrmaticus humiae*. It was first introduced by Hume in 1881 at Manipur. Commonly known as Hume's Bar Tailed Pheasant (Eng.), Noiningkoï (Manipur).



**Salient features:** It is more or less size of a large domestic fowl and length in male is approx. 90 cm and in female is approx. 60 cm. Head, neck and rump of male have glistering steel blue, rump is narrowly scalloped with white, bare facial skin is bright crimson, back and mantle are rich golden bay colour scalloped with black. Tail is long and pointed narrowly barred with chestnut and black, chin, throat and fore neck are glossy steel blue, abdomen and flanks are deep chestnut. In female, upper parts are sandy brown streaked, mottled and barred with black.

**Distribution:** It is a resident bird and is found in Manipur, Nagaland and Mizoram.

**Habit and habitat:** It prefers mixed open forest interspersed with grass and bracken patches on steep rugged hillsides between an altitudes of 900 m to 2000 m. Its habit is diurnal in nature and keeps in parties of 5 to 6 individuals. It feeds on roots, tubers, seeds, berries, grins, insects and grubs. Breeding season is April and May.

**Threats and protections:** Degradation of habitat, fragmented population and being hunted for food it has become rare in availability. It is listed on Appendix I of CITES. It is protected under Schedule I, Part-III of WL (P) Act, 1972. Conservation Status – Near Threatened (IUCN 2012.1). It is included in Appendix-I of CITES.

# MEGHALAYA

Meghalaya is a state in north-eastern India. The word "*Meghalaya*" literally means *the Abode of Clouds*. Meghalaya is a hilly strip in the eastern part of the country with a total area of about 22,720 km<sup>2</sup>. It lies between 20.1° N and 26.5° N latitude and 85.49° E and 92.52° E longitude. The population is 2,964,007 (Census, 2011). Population density 130/Sq km. The state is bounded on the north by Assam and by Bangladesh on the south. About 9,496 km<sup>2</sup> or 42.34% of the state is forested. The forests of Meghalaya are notable for their biodiversity of mammals, birds, and plants.



## State Animal

**Clouded Leopard.** Scientific name is *Neofelis nebulosa*. It was first described by Griffith, 1821 at Cautom, Gouangdong, China. Commonly known as Clouded Leopard (Eng.), Kelral ( Mizo).



**Salient features:** It has long body and well furred tail marked with a number of rings and black tip. Head and Body measures as 60 to 110 cm and tail is 70 to 90 cm. Height at shoulder is about 50 to 60 cm and weight of an adult varies from 11 to 20 kg. Heavy limbs are short and ears are round with black in colour. Hind legs are longer than fore legs with large padded feet. Narrow long head with broad muzzle is observed in Clouded Leopard. This strikingly patterned cat is the smallest among the big cats in India. Pelage colour varies from grayish yellow to yellowish brown with 'clouded' spot formed by dark blotches surrounded by the black margins. Ventral side of body and inner side of legs are whitish or pale yellow in colour. Head is spotted and face with stripe marked cheek.

**Distribution:** It is recorded in Northern part of West Bengal, Assam, Sikkim and North East India.

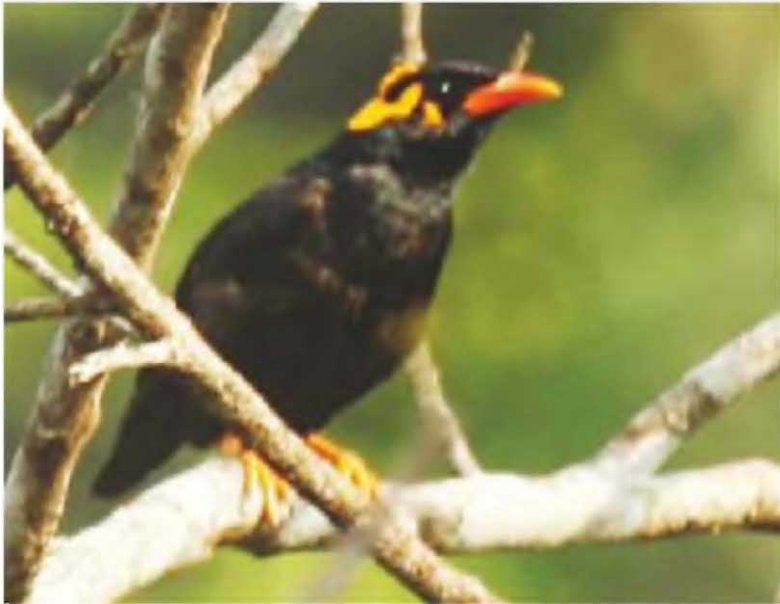
**Habit and habitat:** Found upto the altitude of 300m. They are inhabitants in dense deciduous and ever green forests and also found in grass lands and scrubland habitat. Clouded leopards are mainly arboreal and hunt during night with their powerful jaws and great canine teeth adapted to kill deer, goats, primates, squirrels, birds and large sized animals as their food. Some times, they enter the nearby villages and tea garden to lift the domestic animals also.

**Threats and protections:** Clouded Leopards are also under threat of human interference, loss of habitat, decline of prey species, habitat fragmentation, hunting trade etc. Trades include skin, live animals, fur, body parts etc. The Clouded Leopard is protected under Indian Wildlife (P) Act, 1972 as Schedule I1, Part 1. Conservation Status – Vulnerable C1+2a(i) (IUCN 2012.1). It is included in Appendix-I of CITES.

## State Bird

**Hill Myna.** Scientific name is *Gracula religiosa*. It was first described by Linnaeus in 1758 at Cachar/ Sambalpur. Common name is Common Hill Myna (Eng.), Pahari Myna ( Hindi), Mayna Gashim ( Cachar).

**Salient features:** It is more or less the size of a Myna and length is approx. 29cm. Sexes are alike. It is jet black myna with bright orange-yellow patches of necked skin and fleshy wattles on sides of head and nape. A broad white band on primaries is seen.



**Distribution:** It is a resident bird and is found in Kumaon eastwards to Sikkim, Assam, Meghalya, Manipur and Nagaland.

**Habit and habitat:** They live in tropical moist deciduous and semi-evergreen forests up to an altitude of 2000 m. They are very sociable and noisy and move in a flock of 5 to 8 individuals. They are diurnal in habit and mainly feed on fruits, berries, wild figs, flower nectar and insects. Breeding season is April to July.

**Threats and protections:** There is shrinkage and degradation in their habitat. They are also largely trapped for trade. Though widely distributed population decline is apprehended. Protected under Schedule I, Part- III of WL (P) Act, 1972. Conservation Status –Least Concern (IUCN 2011.2). It is included in Annexure – II of CITES.

# MIZORAM

Mizoram is another State in North Eastern India, sharing borders with the states of Tripura, Assam, Manipur and with the neighbouring countries of Burma and Bangladesh. Mizoram became the 23rd state of India on 20 February 1987. Mizoram has an area of 21,087 Sq Km. Latitude 21° 58' & 24° 35'N Longitude 92° 15' & 93° 29' E. The forest area of the state is 16,717 km<sup>2</sup> constituting 79.30% of the geographical area of the state. Population 10,91,014 (Census, 2011). Population density is 52/ sq km.



Government of Mizoram

## State Animal

**Serow.** It is commonly known as Mainland Serow in English and Sarao in Hindi, Saza (Mizo). Some times, it is called as Goat-Antelope. Scientific name is *Naemorhedus sumatraensis* (Bechstein, 1799). It was first discovered by Beechstein in 1799 at Sumatra, Indonesia as *Antelope sumatraensis*.



**Salient features:** It has a large head, donkey-like ears, thick neck, short limbs, naked rhinarium and straight facial profile. Horns are black in colour, conical and closely wrinkled in their basal three-fourth quarters of the length for both the sexes. It has large pre-orbital gland is present with a deep cavity. Coat is coarse and thin. Coat colour varies from blackish to brownish black, flanks and lower thighs is with rusty red, grey on inner side of limbs and belly. Muzzle is with varying degree of white patches and dorsal stripes are present. Length of head and body varies from 140-150 cm, tail length is within 8-12 cm, girth at base and length of horns are 13-15 and 15-25 cm respectively. Height to the shoulder varies from 85-110 cm.

**Distribution:** It is distributed from Jammu and Kashmir to the Mishmi Hills of Arunachal Pradesh, Himachal Pradesh, Uttarakhand and West Bengal (Darjeeling district).

**Habit and habitat:** They are mainly found at an elevation of 500-4000 m in the recesses of thickly wooded gorges, subalpine scrubs and valleys. Basically it is a hill forest dwelling species moving through grass banks, cliffs, and gorges rocky slopes. Serow mostly leads solitary life except during rut. During rut at the end of October, they may be seen in a group of 3-4 individuals. Females give birth to single or twin kids occasional. They prefer laves and shoots of aromatic plant species as food and feed in a group of a 4-5 individuals. It occupies an area greater than 2001sq kms.

**Threats and protections:** Its population is affected due to interspecific competition, disease, habitat fragmentation, loss of habitat, illegal poaching, human interference, increased military activities in the area of their occurrence etc. Commercial exploitation is made on meat, skin and supposed medicinal value. Serow is protected as Part-I, Schedule -I of Indian Wildlife (P) Act, 1972. Conservation Status – Near Threatened (IUCN 2012.1). It is included in Appendix- I of CITES.

## State Bird

**Mrs. Hume's Pheasant.** It was first introduced by Hume in 1881 at Manipur. Scientific name is *Syrnaticus humiae* and is commonly known as Mrs. Hume's Pheasant (Eng.), Noiningkoi (Manipur), Vavu (Mizo).

**Salient features:** It is more or less size of a large domestic fowl and length in male is approx. 90cm and in female is approx. 60 cm.



Head, neck and rump of male have glistering steel blue, rump is narrowly scalloped with white, bare facial skin is bright crimson, back and mantle are rich golden bay colour scalloped with black. Tail is long and pointed narrowly barred with chestnut and black, chin, throat and fore neck are glossy steel blue, abdomen and flanks are deep chestnut. In female, upper parts are sandy brown streaked, mottled and barred with black.

**Distribution:** It is a resident bird and is found in Manipur, Nagaland and Mizoram.

**Habit and habitat:** It prefers mixed open forest interspersed with grass and bracken patches on steep rugged hillsides between an altitudes of 900 m to 2000 m. Its habit is diurnal in nature and keeps in parties of 5 to 6 individuals. It feeds on roots, tubers, seeds, berries, grins, insects and grubs. Breeding season is April and May.

**Threats and protections:** Degradation of habitat, fragmented population and being hunted for food it has become rare in availability. It is protected under Schedule I, Part- III of WL (P) Act, 1972. Conservation Status – Near Threatened (IUCN 2012.1). It is included in Appendix-I of CITES.

# NAGALAND

Nagaland is a state in the far north-eastern part of India. It borders the state of Assam to the west, Arunachal Pradesh and part of Assam to the north, Burma to the east and Manipur to the south. The state of Nagaland has an area of 16,579 km<sup>2</sup> with a population of 1,980,602 as per the 2011 census making it one of the smallest states of India. It lies between 98 degree and 96 degree East Longitude and 26.6 degree and 27.4 degree latitude North. The forest area of the state is 8,629 km<sup>2</sup> constituting 52.05% of the geographical area of the state.



## State Animal

**Binturong.** It is commonly known as Binturong or Bear Cat in English. This species was first recorded by Raffles in 1821 from Malacca, Malaysia as *Viverra binturong*. Now the scientific name is *Arctictis binturong*.

**Salient features:** It has large body with heavy coarser bear like long and shaggy coat. The general body colour is black or blackish



brown with pale tipped hairs giving a speckled appearance to pelage. Ears are tufted and edges of ears and whiskers are white, The tail is prehensile, very long, thick, muscular and thicker at the base and clothed with bristly hairs. Head and body length varies from 61-95 cm and tail is 56-80cm in length. Weight varies from 9-14 kg.

**Distribution:** It is distributed Hills of north-eastern states i.e., from Assam to Arunachal Pradesh and eastwards to Nagaland and Tripura, Sikkim within India. It is found at an altitude upto 2300 in dense, tropical foot-hills forests to temperate region.

**Habit and habitat:** It leads a solitary life and occasionally it is found in a small parties with immatures. It is nocturnal in habit and arboreal in behaviour spending daytime curled up in a tree hole. Feeding habit is omnivorous and feeds on small mammals, birds, fishes, insects and other plant materials including carrion, fruits. It is said to breed through out the year and gestation period lasts for 92 days and gives birth 1-3 litters at a time.

**Threats and protections:** Population is declining with a trend of general decline. Habitat destruction, corridor loss, human interference, interspecific competition, hunting, trades etc., are the major threats of this species. Illegal trades are made on live animals, body parts and other organs are used for medicinal value. Binturong is protected as Appendix-III of CITES and Part-I, Schedule-I of Wildlife (P)Act, 1972. Conservation Status – Vulnerable A2cd (IUCN 2011.2). It is included in Appendix- III of CITES.

## State Bird

**Blyth's Tragopan.** Scientific name is *Tragopan blythii*. It was first discovered by Jerdon in 1870 at Hills at the head of Assam i. e. Henema, Naga Hills. commonly known as Blyth's Tragopan (Eng.), Gun ( Angami Naga), Agha (Sema Naga), Aogho (Chang Naga).

**Salient features:** It is more or less the size of village hen and length is approx. 68cm in male and approx. 59 cm in female. In male, forehead, crown, sides of neck and the feathers round the naked orange- yellow face black. Super cilia, nape, hind crown, neck, upper back and shoulder patch bright crimson. Breast and belly grey. In female, above back narrowly barred, blotched and stippled with rufous and vermiculated with buff.



**Distribution:** It is a resident bird and is found in Assam, Nagaland, Manipur and Mizoram.

**Habit and habitat:** Its preferred habitat is thick undergrowth in heavy evergreen forest up to an altitude of 1800m. They move in single or in pairs. They are diurnal in activity and feeds on fresh leaves, bamboo shoots, roots, seeds, acorn, berries and insects.

**Threats and protections:** Their abundance is fairly common. It is included in Schedule I of Indian Wildlife (P) Act, 1972. Conservation Status – Vulnerable C2a(i) (IUCN 2012.1). It is included in Appendix – I of CITES.

# ODISHA

Odisha is one of the eastern states of India. It is located between 17.49' N and 22.34'N latitudes and 81.27' and 87.29'E longitudes. It is bounded by the Bay of Bengal on the east; Madhya Pradesh on the west and Andhra Pradesh on the south. It has a coast line of about 450 km. It extends over an area of 155, 707 sq km. It has a population of 36,706, 920 (Census, 2011). Population density 270/sq km. The forest area of the state is 58,136 km<sup>2</sup> constituting 37.34% of the geographical area of the state.



## State Animal

**Sambar.** Sambar has been first described by Kerr in 1792 at Sri Lanka. Common name is Sambar in English and Sambhar in Hindi. Scientific name is *Cervus unicolor*, also named as *Rusa unicolor*. It is a largest Indian Deer with elegant horns.



**Salient features:** Antlers are stout and rugged, brow tines form acute angle with the main beam that divides into two equal tines. General body colour is brown with a yellowish or grayish tinge, under parts is paler and mane is formed around neck and throat.

**Distribution:** They are distributed in Tamil Nadu, Northwards to Uttar Pradesh, east to Northeastern states.

**Habit and habitat:** It is a typical forest dwelling deer and diurnal as well as nocturnal in habit.

**Threats and protections:** Main threats of this species are destruction of forest lands, human interference, habitat destruction hunting and other anthropogenic activities. Antlers, skins, meat are commercially used by illegal poaching. Population are decreasing and they are protected as Schedule-III of Indian Wildlife (P) Act, 1972. Conservation Status – Vulnerable A2cd+3cd+4cd (IUCN 2012.1).

## State Bird

**Blue Jay or Indian roller.** It was first described by Linnaeus in 1758 at East Indies, Ceylon, ex Edwards. Scientific name is *Coracias benghalensis* and common name is Indian Roller (Eng.), Nilkant (Hindi), Palapitta (Telegu).

**Salient features:** It is more or less the size of pigeon and the length is approx. 31 cm. It is bright blue bird with biggish head, cow like heavy bill, rofous brown colour breast, pale abdomen and vent,



reddish brown collar on hind neck. During flight, dark and pale blue portions of the wings flash as brilliant bands. Both the sexes are alike.

**Distribution:** It is a resident bird and is found through out India.

**Habit and habitat:** They are found in open cultivation, grooves of trees and light forests. It is found to move in singly or in pairs and rest normally on telegraph wire. Activity is diurnal. Main foods are insects and also frogs, lizards, small snakes, field rats and young birds. Breeding season is recorded March to June/July.

**Threats and protections:** Though their number is not alarmingly lower, destruction of habitat, trapping for trade etc. poses as their threat. It is locally common and is included as Schedule IV of WL (P) Act, 1972. Conservation Status - Least Concern (IUCN 2012.1).

# PUNJAB

Punjab is bounded on the west by Pakistan, on the north by Jammu and Kashmir, on the northeast by Himachal Pradesh and on the south by Haryana and Rajasthan. Punjab is located in northwestern India, and has an area of 50,362 km<sup>2</sup>. It extends from the latitudes 29.30° North to 32.32° North and longitudes 73.55° East to 76.50° East. Population is 27,704,236 (Census, 2011). Population density is 550/sq.km. The forest area of the state is 3084 km<sup>2</sup> constituting 06.12 % of the geographical area of the state.



## State Animal

**Black Buck.** Scientific Name *Antelope cervicapra* Linnaeus 1758, Common name Mrig (Hindi), Jinka (Telugu), Kala hiran, Sasin, Iralai Maan, Krishna Mriga (Kannada) and Kalveet (Marathi).

**Salient features:** The male possesses a pair of long twisted, closely ringed and spiral horns. Females are hornless, but have thin backwardly curved spikes. Clear sexual dimorphism is noticed in Black Buck. The adult male is dorsally black in colour and throat and ventrum are white. But female is reddish dorsally and white in ventrum with prominent white streaks alongside. The male has prominent white ring round the each eye and sub-orbital pit glands. Both the sexes possess hairs



round the muzzle. Long and narrow fringed with white hairs are found on ears. Length of head and body measures from 120 to 130 cm, length of tail is within 16 to 18 cm, height at shoulder varies from 74 to 83 cm, length of horns ranges from 46 to 65 cm and weight is within ranges from 33 to 42 kg.

**Distribution:** Black buck occurs through out India from West Bengal to Point Calimere (Tamil Nadu), Rajasthan, Punjab and Haryana excepting North East India and the West Coasts

**Habit and habitat:** They live in a herd of 10 to 50 individuals consisting of dominant male, females, fawns and young males. They have the maximum speed of 95 km/ hr with a normal speed of 64 km/ hr. They have the sponking behaviour i.e. they can attain great speed through series of leaps, rising high in air with each bound and can cover a distance of 19 to 22 ft in each stride. During rutting the males mark their territories by faecal matter. Their life span is about 10 years in the wild. The female gives birth normally to a single offspring. Their preferred habitat is arid and semi arid area with open grass land waste lands with thin cover. This social and gregarious animal generally uses open grass land for their grazing. They are diurnal in feeding activity and may tolerate hottest sunrays. They invade cultivated fields of nearby villages. Large carnivores like Panther, Wolves etc. are their natural predators.

**Threats and protections:** They are now under threat of agriculture, hunting, poaching, interspecific competition, grazing problem, loss of habitat, illegal trade practices etc. Skins, antler, meat etc., are traded in the local market. In this context, it can be mentioned that the Bishnoi community of Rajasthan are protecting these animals through their cultural practices. Black Buck is protected under Indian Wildlife Protection Act, 1972 in Part 1 of Schedule I, Conservation Status – Near Threatened (IUCN 2012.1). It is included in Appendix – III of CITES.

## State Bird

**Eastern Goshwak.** Scientific name *Astrus gentilis gentilis*.

It is prey of bird, commonly known as Eastern Goshwak(Enj.), Baaj (Punjabi), Jarra (Hindi).



**Salient features:** The bird is darker and purer grey above with very little or no tinge of brown except on the wing quills. The male bird has long tail with short broad wings ranges from 49 to 57 cm long. Wingspan is from 108 to 127cm.

**Distribution:** This bird is normally found in higher altitude of Jammu and Kashmir, Himachal Pradesh and Uttarakhand, but it was not sighted in Punjab for a long time. In winter, they are found in northern India, Burma and China.

**Habit and habitat:** It breeds from Japan to Western Himalaya during March to June. They lay three or four white eggs in large circular nests built in coarse twigs of trees in an elevation of 3000ft (approx.). The female chases bravely a man who tries to approach to their nests. They feed on various kinds of pheasants and pigeons.

**Remarks:** This bird was associated with 10<sup>th</sup> Guru Gobind Singh and this seems to be at the verge of extinction. "Efforts to carry out census or to raise any breeding ground of this Baaj is under progress. The Punjab Government is also trying to have a pair of bird from Pakistan for breeding purpose, but the proposal".

# RAJASTHAN

Rajasthan is situated in the north-western part of India. It is bounded on the west and northwest by Pakistan, on the north and northeast by the states of Punjab, Haryana, and Uttar Pradesh, on the east and southeast by the states of Uttar Pradesh and Madhya Pradesh, and on the southwest by the state of Gujarat. The Tropic of Cancer passes through its southern tip in the Banswara district. The state has an area of 342,239 square kilometres. Total population is 68,621,012 (Census, 2011) and the population density is 200/Sq km. The forest area of the state is 32488 km<sup>2</sup> constituting 09.49 % of the geographical area of the state.



## State Animal

**Chinkara.** Scientific name is *Gazella bennettii*. It was first discovered by Sykes, 1831 at Deccan Pleatue. Commonly known as Chinkara (Eng.), Hiran (Hindi). The name 'Chinkara' may probably derive from their frequent calls 'chik'.



**Salient features:** It is a slender bodied antelope with cylindrical ringed horns which are longer in male. Female horns are straight without annulations. Pelage colour varies from sandy brown to light chestnut. Smooth and highly glossy fur is adapted for minimizing the heat by way of reflecting sun's rays during day time. Their bellies are white in colour which extends to the base of the tail covered with a dorsal crest of black hairs. Tuft of hairs are found on their knees. Broad dark chestnut stripes from the corner of both the eyes to the muzzle are found on both sides of face. It is reported that their life span in wild ranges from 8 to 10 years. Head and Body length ranges from 100 to 115cm, Height at shoulder is from 52 to 65 cm, horn length varies from 25.5 to 30.5 and 7.5 to 13.0 cm in males and females respectively. Weight of adult Chinkara varies from 21 to 23 kg. Well developed pit glands on feet, sub- orbital and inguinal glands are present in Chinkara.

**Distribution:** Chinkara are recorded in the states of north , west and central India.

**Habit and habitat:** They are adapted to live in thinly covered dry forested and rocky scrub areas especially in sand dune with scattered vegetations in arid condition. Their foods consist of leaves, grasses, fruits like pumpkin, melon etc. Chinkara is a very shy animal and runs at a wild pace to take shelter in nearby bushes, if alarmed. They are found in a small group of 10 to 20 individuals and nocturnal in foraging behaviour. They take water from the vegetation sap as well as from dew and are habituated to live without water for a long period. Their most common predators are said to be wolves, caracal, jackals, small cats etc.

**Threats and protections:** Chinkara is now under threats of human interference, hunting, habitat loss, interspecific competition, agriculture etc. Their horns, meat, skins and body parts are used in trade. The Chinkara is protected under Indian Wildlife (P) Act, 1972, Schedule I, Part I. Conservation Status – Least Concern (IUCN 2012.1).

## State Bird

**Great Indian Bustard.** Scientific name is *Ardeotis nigriceps*..It was first described by Vigors in 1831 at Himalaya's i.e. foot hills of North West India. Commonly known as Great Indian Bustard (Eng.), Hukna (Hindi), Godawar (Rajasthan).

**Salient features:** It is in size of a vulture and length in male is approx. 122cm and the female is approx. 92 cm. It is a huge ground



bird with above deep sandy buff finely vermiculated with black, crown of head black and crested, below is white with a black band across the lower breast. Female is more or less similar but smaller in size, head and neck are less pure white, pectoral band is absent.

**Distribution:** It is a mainly resident bird and is found in Rajasthan, Gujarat, Andhra Pradesh and Madhya Pradesh in India.

**Habit and habitat:** Their habitat is mainly scanty grass land with scrub and cultivation in more or less semi- desert country. They are diurnal in activity and keep in pairs or in family parties. Food habit is omnivorous in nature and breeding season is recorded March to September.

**Threats and protections:** It has lost most of its earlier distribution and the population has dwindled to around 250 only. The main threats are hunting and habitat loss. In the past they were heavily hunted for their meat and for sport. In some places increased irrigation has led to increased agriculture and the altered habitat has led to the disappearance of the species from these regions. It is included as Schedule I of Part III of WL (P) Act, 1972. Conservation Status –Critically Endangered (IUCN 2012.1). It is included in Appendix-I of CITES.

# SIKKIM

Sikkim constitutes part of Eastern Himalaya in the north east of India and contains an area of 7,096 Sq.kms and is situated between 27°00'46" to 28° 07'48" N latitude and 88°00'58" to 88°55'25" E longitude. Sikkim has a population of 607,688. Sikkim is the lowest man count state in India and having a total area of about 7,096 km<sup>2</sup>. The recorded forest cover is 47.59% of the total geographical area of the state.



## State Animal

**Red Panda.** Scientific name is *Ailurus fulgens*. It was first described by Cuvier, 1825 from Indus Orientalis. Common name is Red Panda (Eng.), Sankam (Lepch).



**Salient features:** The characteristic feature of Red Panda is possession of dense bright chestnut red wooly coat, rounded head, large pointed ears, stumpy muzzle and hairy soled legs with retractile claws. They are closely related with Bear groups. The fluffy tail is with black tip and ringed with light and dark shades of rusty red in colour. Legs and underside is black. Outer side of ears is red and inner sides are white in colours. Face and lips are also white. A vertical red stripe is found running from the eye to the gape. Head and body length is from 510 to 640 mm, Tail length varies from 280 to 480 mm and height to the shoulder is approx. 300mm. Weight of an adult specimen ranges from 5 to 6 kg.

**Distribution:** They are distributed in Assam, Arunachal Pradesh, Mishimi Hills, Sikkim, Darjeeling and some pockets of Meghalaya between altitudes from 500 to 1500 m.

**Habit and habitat:** They prefer bamboo thicked in proximity of water in tropical, Sub-tropical and temperate forests. Red Panda is very shy animal and arboreal and nocturnal in behaviour. Their main foods are bamboo sprouts, grasses, roots, fruits etc. It also feeds on insects. Generally, they give birth one or two young at a time during spring.

**Threats and protections:** Red Panda is under threat of loss of habitat, fragmentation of habitat, trade, hunting, corridor loss, interspecific competition, agricultural farming, grazing, forest fires etc. Trading is made on live animal, fur, met and different body parts. The Red Panda is protected under Indian Wildlife (P) Act, 1972 as Schedule I, Part I. Conservation Status – Vulnerable C1 (IUCN 2012.1). It is included in Appendix-I of CITES.

## State Bird

**Blood Pheasant.** It was first described by Beebe in 1912 at British Sikkim. Scientific name is *Ithaginis cruentus affinis* and common name is Sikkim Blood Pheasant (Eng.), Soomong pho (Lepcha).

**Salient features:** Size is more or less domestic fowl and length is approx. 46cm. The male is with back grey, under parts apple green streaked with yellow. Crown has a full mop-like crest and bare orbital patch is red bordered by black. Upper breast is splashed with crimson and forehead is black with crimson chin and throat. The female is black



brown and finely vermiculated with blackish brown, throat is bright in colour.

**Distribution:** It is a resident bird and found in Darjeeling (WB), Sikkim.

**Habit and habitat:** This bird is gregarious in habit and found in a party of 5 to 10 individuals. Their activity is diurnal in nature. The preferred habitat is steep pine forest with rhododendron and bamboo trees at an altitude of 2600m to 4600m and come down to 1500m during winter. They feed on moss, fern, pine shoots and lichens etc. Their breeding season is recorded from June to early July.

**Threats and protections:** Poaching and habitat degradation are threats to this species. It is included as Schedule I of Part III of WL (P) Act, 1972. Conservation Status – Least Concern (IUCN 2012.1).

# TAMIL NADU

Tamil Nadu lies in the southern most part of the Indian Peninsula. It lies between North Latitude between  $8^{\circ} 5'$  and  $13^{\circ} 35'$  and East Longitude Between  $76^{\circ} 15'$  and  $80^{\circ} 20'$ . It has an area of Sq. Km. 130058 and a human population of 72,138,958 (Census, 2011). Population density is 550/sq km. The recorded forest area of the state is 22877 km<sup>2</sup> constituting 17.59 % of the geographical area of the state.



## State Animal

**Nilgiri Tahr.** Scientific name- *Hemitragus hylocrius* (Ogilby, 1838). Its closest relatives are sheep (genus *Ovis*). Until 2005, it was placed with the Himalayan Tahr (*Hemitragus jemlahicus*) and the Arabian Tahr (*Arabitragus jayakari*) in the genus *Hemitragus*. However, it has recently been transferred to a new genus *Nilgiritragus* because it is genetically



more similar to members of the genus *Ovis* than to other tahrs. Common name is Nilgiri Ibex (Eng.), Warri-adu, Warri-auto (Tamil).

**Salient features:** It is the largest of all Tahr species. Weight of mature male varies from 80-100kg and larger than female. Height at shoulder in female is less than 95cm, where as male has 95 to 106 cm. It possesses flat horns with outer surface round and keels inside. Female has one pair of mammary gland. Pelage is dark yellowish brown above and pale below. Adult males are very deep brown above and a prominent white saddle patch on the loin region, for which they are called as 'Saddle Buck'. Each eye is with a light coloured ring around. A pale streak is observed on each ear, which extends to the sides of muzzle. Females and young bucks are grey in colour.

**Habit and habitat:** Their preferred habitat is open terrain, cliff and grass covered hills situated at high altitude. They are mostly found at an attitude of 600 to 2900 m. It is currently restricted to hilly tracts of southern parts of Western Ghats. They graze on the grassy uplands in herds of 5-6 or more individuals up to 150. During rut, males are found outside the mixed group. Their foraging activities start from dawn to late evening. They also browse on variety of grasses, herbs and shrubs in dryer low land habitats and also near the periphery of shola forests. Most Tahr gives birth during January- February. Their life span in wild is within 16-18years. When disturbed Tahr stands in an erect posture with the neck raised above.

**Distribution :** Endemic to India, distributed in Tamilnadu and Kerala. This endemic species of mountain goat is limited to a very small geographical area (c. 8o 20'-11o 30' N; (Davidar, 1978); area that is merely 5% of the Western Ghats, a biodiversity hotspot in India.

**Threats and protections:** They are under threat of loss of habitat, predation, hunting, interbreeding, corridor loss, habitat fragmentation etc. Meat, mounted head, skin are used for trade. Nilgiri Tahr is protected under Indian Wildlife (P) Act, 1972 as Schedule I, Part I. Conservation Status – Endangered C2a(i) (IUCN 2012.1). It is included in Appendix-I of CITES.

## State Bird

**Emerald Dove.** Emerald Dove (Eng.), Paddaki Purd (Tamil), Scientific name - *Chalcophaps indica* (Linnaeus, 1758).



**Salient features:** The Common Emerald Dove is a stocky, medium-sized pigeon, typically 23 to 28 centimeters in length. The back and wings are bright emerald green. Eye brows and forehead white, crown and neck is grey in colour. Lower back possesses a band of white fringed feathers across. Wing shoulder has a white bordered vinous grey patch. Tail brown and grey with a broad black cross band, broken in the middle. Eyes brown and bill red.

**Distribution:** It is a resident bird and locally found. Found in tropical southern Asia from Pakistan to Sri Lanka and east to Indonesia and northern and eastern Australia.

**Habit and habitat:** Its preferred habitat is evergreen and moist deciduous biotopes. It is a ground feeding bird and has a capability of silent and swift flight. It is found in single or in pair. It breeds practically through out the year. Main foods are seeds, fallen berries and termites.

**Threats and protection:** Changes in their habitat due to various anthropogenic effects may cause danger to their population and distribution pattern as found today. This dove is protected under Schedule – IV of Indian Wildlife (P) Act, 1972. Conservation Status – Least Concern (IUCN 2011.2).

# TRIPURA

Tripura is a state in North-East India which borders Bangladesh, Mizoram and Assam. It is surrounded by Bangladesh on its north, south and west. The state lies between 22°56'N and 24°32'N and 91°10'E and 92°21'E. It has an area of 10,491.69 km<sup>2</sup> and a population of 36,71,032 (census 2011) with a population density of 350/sq.km. The recorded forest area of the state is 6,293 km<sup>2</sup> constituting 60.01% of the geographical area of the state.



ত্রিপুরা সরকার

## State Animal

**Phayre's Leaf Monkey.** Scientific name is *Trachypithecus phayrei*. First discovered by Blyth in 1847 from Arakan, Myanmar. Common name is Phayre's Leaf Monkey (Eng.), Chasma Bandar (Assamese and Bengali).

**Salient features:** This dark brown langur has a crest and distinct white patch around eyes and lips are found. The face is black in colour. Upper arms and shoulders are silvery luster in colour. But the females can be differentiated from male by the possession of pale patch on the thighs. Length of head and body of males varies from 420 to 600 mm, and that of female is 442 to 570mm. Tail length is from 648 to 858mm and 720 to 795mm in male and female respectively. Weight varies from 7.9 to 8.7 kg in male and 5.6 to 6.8 kg in female.

**Distribution:** This monkey is normally found between 50 to 800mm. altitude in Assam, Mizoram and Tripura.

**Habit and habitat:** Their preferred habitat is bamboo and banana plantation along the



hillsides in the vicinity of streams. They may be seen in mixed deciduous and sal forests also. They are very shy in nature and are dominantly arboreal. Phayre's Leaf Monkey feeds mainly on leaves, flowers, fruits and bamboo shoots. Though they are not seen in the canopy, but when alarmed whole group consisting of nearly 25 to 30 individuals climb to the upper canopy in the forests.

**Threats and protection:** They are also under threats of habitat fragmentation, interspecific competition, shrinkage of forests land, habitat loss, jhum cultivation, agriculture and farming, hunting etc. Different organs, meat, body parts for traditional medicines are mainly traded. The Phayre's Leaf Monkey is protected under Indian Wildlife (P) Act, 1972 as Schedule I, Part I. Conservation Status – Endangered A2cd (IUCN 2012.1). It is included in Appendix – II of CITES.

## State Bird

**Green Imperial Pigeon.** Scientific name is *Ducula aenea*. It was first discovered by Linnaeus in 1766 at Borabhum. Common name is Green Imperial Pigeon (Eng.), Bada Harial(Hindi), Dahukuruma (Cachar).

**Salient features:** Its size is more or less like a crow and length is approx. 43 cm. It is a pinkish grey pigeon overall with bright metallic bronzy green back and tail and chestnut-maroon under tail coverts. Both the sexes are alike.

**Distribution:** It is a resident bird and is found in Eastern Uttar Pradesh to east ward through Bihar, Odisha to North East states.

**Habit and habitat:** They are found in evergreen and moist deciduous forest and partially secondary jungle of large Ficus and wild fruit trees. Their activities are also diurnal in nature and move in singly or in pairs and in parties. They are mainly frugivorous and breeding season is March to June.

**Threats and protection:** Though they are fairly common, habitat destruction and hunting ifor flesh by man is posing a threat to their survival. It is locally common and is included as Schedule IV of WL (P) Act, 1972. Conservation Status – Least Concern (IUCN 2012.1).



# UTTARAKHAND

Uttarakhand is located at the foothills of the Himalayas ranges, having international boundaries with China (Tibet) in the north and Nepal in the east. On its north-west lies Himachal Pradesh and Uttar Pradesh on the south. Its Latitude is 28 53' 24" N to 31 27' 50" N and Longitude is 77 34' 27" E to 81 02' 22" E. Population is 1,01,16,752 (Census, 2011) Uttarakhand Population density: 190 / sq km. Total Area: 53,483 sq Km, Forest cover: 63%. Total Forest Area: 35,394 sq km.



## State Animal

**Himalayan Musk Deer.** It was first discovered by Hodgson, 1839 at Nepal (Tibetan Plateau). Scientific name is *Moschus chrysogaster*. Common name is Himalayan Musk Deer (Eng.). Kastura (Hindi). It is regarded as in-between true deer and antelope having no antler and facial glands.

**Salient features:** It has pointed face and large prominent rounded ears with short flat tail ended to a tuft of hairs. Hind limbs are larger than fore limbs. It is interesting to note that the upper canines of



male come out as a form of tusk which is laterally compressed and extended below the lower jaw. A globular musk gland is found beneath the abdominal skin near the naval region. The female has a single pair of teat. Pelage colour ranges from dark sepia brown to iron grey. In summer coat colour tends to be darker with more than two horizontal rows of pale creamy spots extending to pelvic region from shoulder. Fawns are white spotted. Belly, throat as well as lower cheek are whitish in colour. There is no underwool found on the body of musk deer. Hairs are coarse and brittle. There are variations of coat colour reported in musk deer of different parts of Himalaya. Characteristic hissing call is noticed in musk deer. Its main foods are herbs, grasses, mosses, ferns, lickers etc. Head and body length varies from 80 to 100 cm, Tail length is within 3.5 to 5.0 cm, Height at shoulder is from 50 to 70 cm, ear length is about 9.4 cm and weight ranges from 10 to 11 kg. Their life span in the wild is recorded as about 10 years.

**Distribution:** They are normally found in an altitude of 2500 to 4500 m of Uttar Pradesh, Sikkim, Himachal Pradesh, Arunachal Pradesh and Jammu and Kashmir.

**Habit and habitat:** Musk deer prefers rugged terrain and alpine forest of Himalaya. They occupy their own territory in a solitary life. Only during rutting season they are seen in pair.

**Threats and protection:** This deer is also under serious threat of grazing, human interference, diseases, predation, hunting, extraction of musk, corridor loss, habitat fragmentation. Trading are made especially on meat, body parts, musk pod (for extraction of musk) etc. in national and international markets. Musk Deer is protected under Indian Wildlife (P) Act, 1972 as Schedule I, Part I. Their habitat is presently declared as National Park for their full protection. Conservation Status – Endangered A2cd (IUCN 2012.1). It is included in Appendix-II of CITES.

## State Bird

**Himalayan Monal.** Scientific name is *Lophophorus impejanus*. It was discovered by Latham in 1790 at Chamba. Commonly is known as Himalayan Monal (Eng.), Datiwar (Kumaon and Garhwal).

**Salient features:** Its length is about 72 cm and larger than domestic hen. Male and female are different in colour. Male is metallic



bronze green, purple and blue with large white rump patch, crest above and wire like green feathers and spatulate ends. Ventral side is velvety jet black. Wings are chestnut in colour. Tail is short, square – cut and cinnamon on coloured. The female is brown, mottled and streaked with paler and darker brown with a short tuft on head and throat is white.

**Distribution:** It is a resident bird of Kashmir, Punjab, Himachal Pradesh, Kumaon, Garhwal and Sikkim.

**Habit and habitat:** Their preferred habitats are Oak, Rhododendro and Deodar forest with open glades and sheep pastures between 2600 and 5000m altitude. They are found in single or a party of 3 to 4 individuals. They are diurnal in habit and feed on grass and flower seeds, berries, insects and their larvae. They breed during April to June.

**Threats and protection:** The species is declining owing to habitat loss and degradation and over-hunting for food and is included as Schedule I part III of WL (P) Act, 1972. Despite the fact that the population trend appears to be decreasing, the decline is not believed to be sufficiently rapid to approach the thresholds for Vulnerable under the population trend criterion. Conservation Status – Least Concern (IUCN 2012.1). It is included in Appendix-I of CITES.

# UTTAR PRADESH

**Uttar Pradesh** is a state located in the northern part of India. It shares an international border with Nepal to the north. Other states along Uttar Pradesh's border include Uttarakhand, Haryana and Delhi to the north and northwest; Rajasthan on the west; Madhya Pradesh on the south; Chhattisgarh and Jharkhand on the south east; and Bihar on the east. Area 2,40,928 Square km. Uttar Pradesh is the most populous state in India, with a Population of 19,95,81,477(Census, 2011). Population density is 820/sq km. The recorded forest area of the state is 16,826 km<sup>2</sup> constituting 6.98% of the geographical area of the state.



## State Animal

**Swamp Deer.** The scientific name is *Recervus duvaucelii*. It was discovered by Cuvier in 1823 in Northern India. Common name is Swamp Deer (Eng.), Barasingha (Hindi).

**Salient features:** Pelage colour varies from brown to yellowish brown in winter and chestnut in summer. Inner part of legs, rump and



underside of tail is creamy white. The female and fawn are lighter in colour. Coat is fine and wooly. Neck is with mane. The male possesses a magnificent branched antlers and long narrow muzzle. Their sense of smell is very fine. Brow tine is nearly at right angle to the beam which is unbranched for more than half of its length. Then the beam is divided and sub-divided into 10 to 14 tines. Length of head and body varies from 105 to 140 cm., tail length is within 20 to 33 cm, antler length ranges from 70 to 75 cm and girth of antler is approx. 13cm. Weight is about 180 to 200 kg.

**Distribution:** They are found within an altitude of 100 to 200 m in Terai, Duars of North and Eastern India from Uttaranchal to Assam and another population is found in Kanha National Park and Bastar in Madhya Pradesh.

**Habit and habitat:** The habitat of swamp deer varies from Eastern and Northern India. Northern population prefers marshy lands associated with water, but Eastern Indian Populations prefer dry thatched land near water. Where as Central Indian population is almost confined to dry forests and is fewer dependants on water. They avoid thick forests and feeds mainly on growing grasses at day time. During noon they take rest nearby tree shelter and start feeding again in the evening. They are recognized as a deer of swamp. During winter they form a large group consisting of 20 to 35 individuals of different age group and sexes. But during rutting session, the herds are divided into smaller groups of 20 to 30 hinds with one or two stags. Sometimes two stags are seen to fight with their antlers for a short period to be the master of harem.

**Threats and protection:** The predators of swamp deer is tiger, leopard. The swamp deer is under threat of human interference, habitat loss, loss of habitat, predation, hunting, floods, diseases, genetic problems like interbreeding etc. Trading is made for taxidermy model, horn, meat, antlers etc. The Swamp Deer is protected under Indian Wildlife (P) Act, 1972 as Schedule I, Part I. Conservation Status – Vulnerable C1 (IUCN 2012.1). It is included in Appendix-I of CITES.

## State Bird

**Sarus Crane.** Scientific name is *Grus antigone*. It was first described by Linnaeus in 1758 in Asia. Common name is Sarus Crane (Eng.), Sarus (Hindi).



**Salient features:** It is a size of vulture and height is more or less 135 cm. This bird has huge long legs and long neck and grey in colour with naked red head and upper neck. Both the sexes are alike, but the female is slightly smaller.

**Distribution:** It is a resident bird and is found in through out India like Kashmir, Punjab, Himachal Pradesh, Uttar Pradesh, Bihar, North Bengal, Assam, Rajasthan, Gujarat and Northern Madhya Pradesh.

**Habit and habitat:** It prefers open cultivated well watered plains, marsh land and jheels up to an altitude of 1650m. It roams in pairs and some time with family parties. Preferred foods are fishes, crustaceans, frogs, lizards, insects, grains, tubers, aquatic and marsh plants, green shoots of grass and cereals. Breeding season is July to December.

**Threats and protection:** Threats include habitat destruction and/or degradation, hunting and collecting, as well as environmental pollution. Population status is locally abundance and is protected under Schedule- IV of WL (P) Act, 1972. Conservation Status – Vulnerable A2cde+3cde+4cde (IUCN 2012.1). It is included in Appendix-II of CITES.

# WEST BENGAL

**West Bengal** is one of the eastern states of India. The state lies between 27°13'15" and 21°25'24" north latitudes and 85°48'20" and 89°53'04" east longitudes. It has a total area of 88,752 km<sup>2</sup> and it is bordered by the countries of Nepal, Bhutan, and Bangladesh, and the Indian states of Odisha, Jharkhand, Bihar, Sikkim, and Assam. West Bengal encompasses two broad natural regions: the Gangetic Plain in the south and the sub-Himalayan and Himalayan zone in the north. The Darjeeling Himalayan hill region in the northern extreme of the state belongs to the eastern Himalaya. A small coastal region is on the extreme south, while the Sundarbans mangrove forests form a remarkable geographical landmark at the Ganges delta. Population is 91,347,736, with a density of 1000/km<sup>2</sup>. The recorded forest area of the state is 11,879 km<sup>2</sup> constituting 13.39% of the geographical area of the state. Sundarbans - the world's largest mangrove forest is located in southern West Bengal.



## State Animal

**Fishing Cat.** Scientific name is *Prionailurus viverrinus*. It was first described by Bennett, 1833 in continent of India. Common name is Fishing Cat (Eng.), Khupya Bagh (Hindi), Mecchobiral (Beng.)

**Salient features:** It is a medium sized cat. Head is elongated, legs and tail are short. Head and body length varies from 70.00 to 86.00 cm, Tail length is from 25.00 to 33.00 cm. Hind foot is about 16.00 to 16.50 cm in length. Weight ranges from 6.00 to 12.00 kg. Feet are developed into interdigital webs and claws are not completely covered by claw sheath. Forelegs are two elbow bars and diagnostic white spots are observed on the back side of ears. Elongated dark spots are found in longitudinal rows. There are six to eight black lines are coming down from the forehead to the neck. Tail has 5 to 6 incomplete rings with



black tip. Short coarse earthy grey olivaceous tinged fur cover the body. Muzzle and lower cheeks are white.

**Distribution:** They are found between 10 to 2000 m altitudes. The Fishing Cats are distributed in Odisha, West Bengal, Assam, Western Ghats and other North-eastern states.

**Habit and habitat:** Their preferred habitat is dense forest near water bodies and can be found to reverine swampy tidal creek and marshy areas. For these they can precisely drive and hunt fish and aquatic bird species like water fowls, ducks etc., in the water. The Fishing Cat is semi-aquatic and terrestrial in nature and nocturnal in behaviour.

**Threats and protection:** They are under threat of loss of habitat, trade, hunting, decline of prey species, corridor loss, destruction of aquatic vegetation etc. Their skins, fur, claws, bones and body parts are traded resulting population decline. The Fishing Cat is protected under Indian Wildlife (P) Act, 1972 as Schedule 1, Part 1. Conservation Status – Endangered A2cd+4cd (IUCN 2012.1). It is included in Appendix-II of CITES.

## State Bird

**White Throated King Fisher.** Scientific name is *Halcyon smyrnensis*. It was first described by Linnaeus in 1758 at Singapore.



Commonly known as White – Breasted King Fisher (Eng.), Sadabunk Machhranga (Bengali).

**Salient features:** Its size is more or less the size of a Myna and length is approx. 28cm. It has deep chocolate head, neck and under parts, chin, throat and centre of breast are white. Wings are large and white with long heavy pointed bill coral-red and legs are red in colour. Both the sexes are alike.

**Distribution:** It is a resident bird and is found in Chattishgarh, Northern Andhra Pradesh, Odisha, Eastern Bihar, West Bengal, Assam, Nagaland and Manipur.

**Habit and habitat:** Its preferred habitats are wet paddy fields, flooded borrow- pits, road side ditches, village tanks, canals and stream. It has diurnal in activity and moves single or in separated pairs. It feeds mainly on small animals, fish and large insects. Breeding season is recorded March to August.

**Threats and protection:** Habitat degradation, pollution of wetlands have negative effects on their population. It is common and is included in Schedule IV of WL (P) Act, 1972. Conservation Status – Least Concern (IUCN 2012.1).



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**Animal Icons of  
Union Territories of India**

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# ANDAMAN AND NICOBAR ISLANDS

It is situated on the Bay of Bengal at Latitude 6° to 14° North and Longitude 92° to 94° East. This is a cluster of islands having a total coastline of 1962 km. The Andaman & Nicobar are a group of picturesque Islands, big and small, inhabited and uninhabited, a total of 572 islands, islets and rocks lying in the South Eastern Part of the Bay of Bengal. They lie along an arc in long and narrow broken chain, approximately North-South over a distance nearly 800 kms. The Andaman and Nicobar Islands have great maritime importance. Population is 379944 (Census, 2011). The recorded forest area of the state is 7171 km<sup>2</sup> constituting 86.93% of the geographical area of the UT.



## State Animal

**Dugong.** It was first discovered by Muller in 1776 at Cape of Good Hope to Philipines as *Tricheus dugong*. Currently its scientific name is *Dugong dugong*. It is commonly known as Dugong in English, also known as Sea Cow and Samudra Gai in Hindi.

**Salient features:** Body is stream-lined with massive head truncated anteriorly, fleshy, pad-like upper lip projecting over the lower



lip. The upper lip is provided with stiff bristles around muzzle. It possesses a fusiform body, pectoral flippers and horizontally compressed and notched tail fluke. Nostrils are situated on top of head, eyes are small and deeply sunk, ears just circular apertures, neck is indistinguishable. Body colour is grey, bluish-grey or brownish-grey dorsally, whitish ventrally. Mouth is small, forelimbs in the form of flippers are longer and narrower. Incisors are tusk like only in males and 3/3 functional cheek teeth on each side. Total length of body vary from 2.5 to 3.2 m. Weight is about 400 kg.

**Distribution:** It is distributed in Gulf of Katchh, Gulf of Mannar, Off Malabar Coast in Kerala, Palk Bay and around Andaman and Nicobar Islands. Within A&N Islands Dugong has been reported from Ritchie's Archipelago, North Reef, Little Andaman and parts of Nicobars.

**Habits and habitats:** Dugongs are generally found in warm waters around the coast with large numbers concentrated in wide and shallow protected bays. Large numbers also exist in wide and shallow mangrove areas and around inshore islands, where sea grasses are common. They usually remain distributed around 10 m depth and may descend as far as 37 metres in search of food. Dugong is the only strictly marine herbivorous mammal. Dugong is referred to as sea cow because their diet consists mainly of sea-grass. When eating they ingest the whole plant, including the roots, although when this is impossible they will feed on just the leaves. Females give birth after a 13–15 month gestation, usually to just one calf.

**Threats and protection:** Dugongs have historically been killed for their meat, oil, skin, and bones. Dugong oil is important to people in India, and its meat is believed to be an aphrodisiac. Dugong ribs were used to make carvings. Human activity such as mining, trawling, dredging, land-reclamation, and boat propeller scarring also cause an increase in sedimentation which smothers sea grass and prevents light from reaching it. This is the most significant negative factor affecting sea grass the basic food of Dugongs. Despite being legally protected in many countries, the main causes of population decline remain anthropogenic and include hunting, habitat degradation, and fishing-related fatalities. The dugong's current distribution is reduced from originally what they were, and many populations are close to extinction. Included in Part I of Schedule I of WL (P) Act, 1972. The IUCN (2012.15) listed dugong as a species Vulnerable- A2bcd, while the

Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species (CITES) limits or bans the trade of derived products.

## State Bird

**Andaman wood pigeon.** First described by Hume, 1873 at Port Mount, Andaman Islands as *Columba palumboides*. Present scientific name is *Carpophaga palumboides*.



**Salient features:** Andaman Wood Pigeon is an endemic bird, which is found only in Andaman and Nicobar group of islands. This bird is of the size of a domestic pigeon with longer tail. This bird has whitish head with checkerboard pattern on neck. The upper parts are dark slate grey in colour and under parts are pale blue grey Metallic green sheen on upper side and reddish bill with yellowish tip and purplish red orbital skin are identification characters. The bird lives in dense broadleaved evergreen forest.

**Distribution:** It is endemic to the Andaman and Nicobar Islands, including Great Nicobar, Nancowry, Car Nicobar and Batti Malu archipelagos in India.

**Habits and habitats:** Pairs or small parties wander from island to island in search of fruiting figs and other trees in dense broadleaved evergreen forest. They are arboreal in nature and entirely frugivorous. Food includes wild figs and other fruits and berries. They are usually seen in pairs and in small parties in the forest trees, often perching at lower heights. They are capable to fly high up in the air while crossing the straits from one island to another with availability of food- ripening of the different fruits and berries. They may affect dense evergreen forests.

**Threats and protection:** This uncommon species appears to rely on dense forest; it has a small range in which hunting and logging are likely to be causing it to decline. Its limited range and preference for dense forest suggest that it is threatened by habitat loss and fragmentation. Indeed, although forest remains fairly extensive on the Andamans and Nicobars, the human population on larger islands is rising and habitat is consequently under pressure from agriculture, grazing, logging and development projects. Hunting is also apparently common on the islands and may affect this species. They are being trapped for pet and killed for flesh which is sold in the local market illegally. Included in Schedule IV of WL (P) Act, 1972. Conservation Status – Near Threatened (IUCN 2012.1).

# CHANDIGARH

The Union Territory of Chandigarh is located in the foothills of the Shivalik hill ranges in the north western part of India, which form a part of the fragile Himalayan ecosystem. Longitude 30° 39' N to 30° 49' N and Latitude 76.41°E to 76° 51' E. It has a geographic area of 114 Km<sup>2</sup>. It is occupied by Kandi (Bhabhar) in the north east and Sirowal (Tarai) and alluvial plains in the remaining part. The subsurface formation comprises of beds of boulders, pebbles, gravel, sand, silt, clays and some kankar. As of 2011 India census, Chandigarh had a population of 960,787. The recorded forest area of the state is 34 km<sup>2</sup> constituting 29.82% of the geographical area of the UT.



## State Animal

**NIL – No information available**

## State Bird

**NIL - No information available**

# DADRA AND NAGAR HAVELI

Dadra and Nagar Haveli is a Union Territory in western India. Nagar Haveli lies between Maharashtra and Gujarat, whereas Dadra is an enclave lying a few kilometres north of Nagar Haveli in Gujarat having coordinates 20°16' N 73°01' E. The area of Dadra and Nagar Haveli is 491 sq km. It is situated on the western side of the foot hills of Western Ghat. The recorded forest area of the state is 204 km<sup>2</sup> constituting 41.55% of the geographical area of the UT. According to the 2011 census Dadra and Nagar Haveli has a population of 342,853.



## State Animal

**Striped Hyna.** This species was first discovered as *Canis hyaena* by Linnaeus, in the year of 1758 at Benna Mountains, Laristan, Iran. Commonly it is known as Striped Hyaena in English and Lakkar Bagha in Hindi. Current scientific name is *Hyaena hyaena*.

**Salient features:** The body consists of dirty grey to cream buff in colour with blackish transverse stripes on body and limbs. Total length



is approx. 150 cm, height about 90 cm. It has broad head with heavy and tremendous powerful jaws for enabling it to crack up and eat thick limb bones of large herbivores killed by tigers. A long and heavy crest of mane extends from head to the root of bushy and black tail over the neck. Body is sloping back to weak hind quarters.

**Distribution:** They prefer scrub, dry open jungle, open hills and caves or holes to inhabit. It is distributed from south to Nilgiri Hills, north to lowland of Kashmir and Kumaon, east to West Bengal and west to Gujarat.

**Habits and habitats:** They are scavengers in nature. They are nocturnal in habit and feeds on carcasses of animals killed by beast of prey or died of diseases. Sometimes they kill small animals also.

**Threats and protection:** Population of this species is also under threat due to encroachment of forest land, human interference, hunting and poaching. It is protected under Schedule-III of Indian Wildlife (P) Act, 1972. Conservation Status – Near Threatened (IUCN 2012.1).

## State Bird

**Lesser Golden Backed Wood Pecker.** It was first described by Linnaeus in 1758 at Benghala = Chandernagor as *Picus benghalensis*. The scientific name is *Dinopium benghalensis* (Linnaeus) and common name is Lesser Golden-backed Woodpecker (Eng.) and Katphora (Hindi).



**Salient features:** Length of the bird is about 29cm with 136 to 148 mm length of wings of both the sexes. Length of the bill from the skull varies from 31 to 43 mm with tarsus length is about 23 to 27 mm. Tail length varies from 89 to 93 mm. Bill is horny black and iris is reddish brown with green circumorbital skin sage. Mouth colour is slaty pink or greyish pink. Legs and feet are greyish leaf-green with slaty claws. Upper plumage of male is chiefly golden yellow and black. Occipital crest and crown is crimson. Chin, throat, and sides of head are black, finely streaked and stippled with white. Under part is white streaked with black. Female is more or less similar but with fore crown black, stippled with white like throat. The young is duller and browner and without white tipping on crown.

**Distribution:** They are distributed in the sub-continent as whole, Punjab, Uttar Pradesh, Bihar, West Bengal, Assam, Manipur, Rajasthan, Odisha, Madhya Pradesh, Gujarat, Maharashtra, and Northern Andhra Pradesh.

**Habits and habitats:** They are found in plains, foothills and in a height of approx. 1000m in dry and moist deciduous biotope. They prefer light forests, forest plantations, grove of mangoes, palmyra palms and cultivation, urban area and road sides. They keep in pairs or in family parties and is close association with various insectivorous species. They locate the hidden pupal galleries of wood-boring beetles. Their main foods are Insects and larvae, mainly ants picked off from tree trunks and boughs. It has been recorded that they cling to a half-ripe mango on a tree, digging into the flesh and swallow morsels. They also take nectar from flower regularly.

A loud, high-pitched cackling 'laugh' voice may be heard from them. Breeding season is recorded from February to July, but chiefly in March and April. Nests are built on mango, albizzaia, erythrina and other softwood trees from a height of 3 to 6 m from the ground. Some times, stems of coconut and palymra palm are selected for nest an entrance on the underside. Normally 3 eggs are laid and both the sexes share incubation and all domestic chores and nest sanitation.

**Threats and protection: Threats.** They are protected under schedule IV of WL (P) Act, 1972.

# DAMAN AND DIU

Daman and Diu is a union territory in India situated on the Arabian sea coast. It has two districts namely Daman and Diu. Daman between 20°-22'-00" to 20°-27'-25" latitude north and between 72°-49'-42" to 72°-54'-43" longitude. Daman is situated on the west coast of India on the Arabian sea. It has a geographical area of 72 sq km. Diu is a tiny island near the coast of Kathiawar near the port of Veraval in Gujarat. The district of Diu is situated between latitudes 20° 44' 34" and 20° 42' 00" and longitudes 70° 52' 26" and 71° 00' 24". Diu has an area of 40 sq km.



Government of Daman and Diu

## State Animal

**Yet to be declared**

## State Bird

**Yet to be declared**

# LAKSHADWEEP

Lakshadweep is the smallest Union Territory of India and is its only coral island chain. This archipelago consists of 36 islands, Population(2011) 64,429, Density of Population: 2013 people/sq km. Location 8°-12°-13' North Latitude and 71° - 74° East longitude. Lakshadweep has an area of 32 sq. kms. The only coral reef island in India having rich flora and fauna.



## State Animal

**Butterfly fish.** They belong to the family Chaetodontidae under Order Perciformes. They are the most colourful fishes to be found in the wild. The Butter Fly Fish is very closely related to Angelfishes in their colour pattern.

**Salient features:** Butterfly fish has small mouth, snout more or less pointed. Brush shaped teeth is adapted to feed on pieces of soft animals. Their body is laterally compressed enabling them to swim between the coral branches in case of danger. They do not get overly large, i.e. about 6 inches. The common name is based on the brightly coloured body of many species, bearing shades of black, white, blue, red, orange and yellow. Many have eyespots on their flanks and dark bands across their eyes. They are known to be slow swimmers and use caudal fin for propulsion. The highly mobile pectoral fins and the undulating dorsal and anal fins are used for narrow space maneuver. They always lack the spine on the operculum. Maximum diversity of butterfly fishes is found in coral reefs.

**Distribution:** Thirty eight species of Butterfly Fishes are recorded in Andaman and Nicobar islands



and there are 125 species found in the world. They occur widely in tropical, sub-tropical and temperate coral reef habitats.

**Habits and habitats:** Most of the species are diurnal so all work is done during daylight hours and favourable weather conditions. Few species are territorial, many live in monogamic pairs, sharing a feeding territory. They are usually observed in pairs pecking at scleractinian corals. Each pair appears to forage within a limited area. Their diet consists mostly of coral polyps, crustaceans, corals, worms, algae and other small invertebrates. Few species feed on plankton. Some species feed exclusively on live hard corals and they are considered as coral reef's Health Indicator Species.

They are not considered as food fishes, but have exclusive ornamental value and are considered as habitat indicators. They have high economic importance for aquarium trade. They are also monitored to indicate climate change and environmental degradation.

**Threats and protection:** Over exploitation of these species for trade lead them to decline. So, a management plan is to be initiated to control the over exploitation of these beautiful species. It has been well documented that Butterfly Fish abundances often vary in accordance with coral cover and often decline following extensive coral depletion, indicating that they may be useful as an indicator of environmental quality on coral reefs. Adequate protection and conservation methods and legislations are required.

## State Bird

**Sooty Tern.** Scientific name *Onychoprion fuscatus* (formerly *Sterna fuscata*) was first described by Sparrman in 1788 at Finland as *Sterna nubilosa*. Common name is Sooty Tern in English and scientific name is *Sterna fuscata nubilosa*.

**Salient features:** This is a large tern measuring 33–36 cm long with a 82–94 cm wingspan. Bill length from feathers varies from 35 to 42 mm and tarsus is approx. 23–24 mm. It is a black- and –white pelagic tern with conspicuously long pointed wings and deeply forked tail and it has dark black upperparts and white under parts. Edge of upper wings has contrastingly white and outermost elongated tail feathers is greyish white. It has black legs and bill. In winter, crown and lores are speckled with white. Juvenile Sooty Terns are scaly grey above and



below. The Sooty Tern has darker-backed and has a broader white forehead. It has brown or dark grey spotted with buffy white on back and wings are broadest on scapulars and tertiaries. Their lower abdomen is whitish.

**Distribution:** It is a bird of the tropical oceans, breeding on islands throughout the equatorial zone. It is also reported to breed in Andaman. Also breeds on Vengurla Rocks off the western coast of the Peninsula i.e. south of Ratnagiri.

**Habits and habitats:** The bird is migratory and dispersive, wintering more widely through the tropical oceans. They feed on fish, squids etc. by plunging from a height or scooping up from the surface, flying fishes are also caught in the air. Breeding season is from December/January to May. They are dispersed over the ocean after breeding. It is a pelagic tern and comes seldom to land except in the breeding season. They are usually seen to roam in a flocks well out to sea. It was also reported that they rest on the back of a sleeping sea turtle. Eggs are laid on the bare soil, or in a shallow depression in vast closely packed colonies. Both the sexes incubate. Their distinctive cry, when agitated or attracted by the well-lit passing ship in the dark has earned its popular name of 'Wide awake Tern'.

**Threats and protection:** Though they are fair common and widely distributed through most of the tropical oceans, their breeding grounds are getting disturbed through various maritime anthropogenic activities. Conservation Status – Least Concern (IUCN 2012.1). They are protected under schedule IV of WL (P) Act, 1972. CITES.

# NATIONAL CAPITAL TERRITORY OF DELHI

Delhi officially the National Capital Territory of Delhi (NCT), is the largest metropolis by area and the second-largest metropolis by population in India. Delhi is located at 28.61°N 77.23°E, and lies in northern India. It borders the Indian states of Uttar Pradesh to the east and Haryana on the north, west and south. Coordinates: 28°36'36"N 77°13'48"E. It is Located on the banks of the River Yamuna. Area 177.0 km<sup>2</sup>. Population 11,007,835 (Census, 2011).



## State Animal

**Blue Bull.** The species was first discovered by Pallas in 1766 at plains of Peninsular India as *Antilope tragocamelus*. It is commonly known as Blue Bull in English and Nilgai in Hindi and Bengali. Current scientific name *Boselaphus tragocamelus* (Pallas 1766).



**Salient features:** It is horse like build with high shoulder sloping downwards to a low rump. Height at shoulder varies from 130 to 150 cm. Female is much smaller. Horns measure 20 cm in average and maximum length is recorded as 29.8 cm. The male has coarse iron grey coat having a white ring below each fetlock and two white spots on its cheek. A distinctive tuft of stiff black hairs is also present in the throat of males. Horns of male are stout and cone like, but distinctly keeled in front, triangular at base and circular near tips. Females and young males are sandy brown in colour. Male's lips, chin, inside the ears and undersurface of tail are white. Both the sexes have dark manes.

**Distribution:** Nilgai are found in Haryana, Uttar Pradesh, Bihar, Andhra Pradesh, Madhya Pradesh, Karnataka, Punjab, Maharashtra, Rajasthan and Gujarat.

**Habits and habitats:** They are both diurnal as well as nocturnal in habit. They usually inhabit hilly terrain or undulating plains having grasses and patches of scrub. Nilgai always avoid dense forests and also invade in the cultivation field and also considerable damage to the crops. They feed till late in the morning and also again early in the evening. Nilgai take rest in the shade and feed on leaves and fruit of the ber and other trees. The fleshy fallen flowers of mohua tree attract Nilgai. They can survive for a long time without water. .. They have good sense of smell and sighting power. Nilgai have the habit of resorting to the same spot to deposit their droppings, which may be a means of re-assembling scattered members of a herd. They are usually found in a group of twenty or more individuals comprising of cows, calves and young bulls.

**Threats and protection:** They are now under threat for human interference, habitat destruction, habitat loss, hunting etc. Their meat is sold in the local market; their antlers are also sold for decoration. They are protected under Schedule III of Wildlife (P) Act, 1972. Conservation Status – Least Concerned (IUCN 2012.1).

## State Bird

**Shaheen (Falcon).** It was first discovered by Sundevall in 1837 at the sea off the Nicobars as *Falco peregrinator*. The common name is Shaheen Falcon (Eng.) and in hindi it is called as Kohi (female) and Kohila (male). Current scientific name is *Falco peregrinus peregrinator*.



**Salient features:** Length of the bird is about 38 to 46 cm with wing length is between 265-295 mm in male and 312-342 mm in female. Sexes are alike and female is larger than male. Iris is light brown with legs and feet as creamy white. Wing span is recorded from 295 to 911 mm in male. They are the powerful, broad shouldered, streamlined falcon with long pointed wings having swift direct flight. Upper side of the body is slaty black with black head and prominent cheek or moustachial stripes on either side of throat. Lower part of the body is pinkish white and rusty red, boldly cross-banded with black from abdomen down. Immature young is more brownish black above and more ferruginous below.

**Distribution:** It is a non-migratory subspecies of the Peregrine Falcon found mainly on the Indian subcontinent and the nearby island of Sri Lanka. They are the resident birds in the entire Indian Union in the Himalayas from Kashmir, Punjab, Himachal Pradesh, Uttar Pradesh, Assam, South of Kerala, western Rajasthan, northern and western Gujarat and Nicobars.

**Habits and habitats:** Preferred habitat is steep rugged hills than about lowland waterfowl resorts. They range from the foothills and rugged hilly country to the highest peninsular hills. Pairs occupy favourite crags, almost traditionally, for nesting and as bases for foraging over vast tracts of the surrounding countryside. Their flight is extremely swift and direct and during flight wings beat followed by a glide at tremendous speed. They are mostly inclined to be somewhat crepuscular, hunting mostly soon after dawn and then again late afternoon and well into the dusk. Their foods consist of chiefly chukor,

partridges, quails, pigeons etc. Sometimes, it has been recorded that rose-ring parakeets form a major food item. Nightjars and bats are also recorded. Breeding season is chiefly March to May in Himalayas and in peninsular India and South India Hills, it is recorded January to March/April. They lay egg 3 or 4 at a time. Colours of eggs are pale stone to pale brick-red in ground colour. Average size of eggs is 51.8x40.7 mm. Both the sexes take part in nest building and repair. Normally the female incubate and the male keeps watch from a neighboring pinnacle. During day time eggs are exposed and shaded from direct sun by female standing over them with half-open wings. Nest is a large compact platform of sticks sometimes lined with wool and grass, placed on a large or in a niche on a cliff face –usually inaccessible situation. Often it has been seen that if no nest is built, they lay eggs directly on scanty grass growing on a ledge.

They are facing threat due to habitat destruction and other anthropogenic activities and protected under Schedule IV of WL(P)Act, 1972. Conservation Status - Least Concern (IUCN 2012.1). It is included in Appendix-I of CITES.

# PUDUCHERRY

Puducherry consists of four small unconnected districts: Pondicherry, Karaikal and Yanam on the Bay of Bengal and Mahé on the Arabian Sea. Pondicherry and Karaikal are by far the larger ones and are both enclaves of Tamil Nadu. Yanam and Mahé are enclaves of Andhra Pradesh and Kerala respectively. The territory has a total area of 492 km<sup>2</sup>: Pondicherry (city) 293 km<sup>2</sup>, Karaikal 160 km<sup>2</sup>, Mahé 9 km<sup>2</sup> and Yanam 30 km<sup>2</sup>. Coordinates: 11.93°N 79.83°E. It has 1,244,464 inhabitants (2011). On April 16, 2007, the government of Pondicherry announced that the following to be its state symbol.



## State Animal

**Squirrel.** Indian Palm Squirrel. It was first discovered by Linnaeus in the year of 1776 at East Coast of Tamil Nadu as *Sciurus palmarum*. Current scientific name is *Funambulus palmarum* and common name is Indian Palm Squirrel (Eng.), Gilleri (Hindi) and Anna Pilla in Tamil.

**Salient features:** Head and body length is about 13cm to 15cm. and tail is slightly longer i. e. 14-15 cm. This squirrel has three pale stripes on its back running parallel from head to tail make it distinct. Tail posses a bold reddish brown mid ventral line, body colour grayish brown or olive brown.



**Distribution:** It is distributed in West Bengal, Bihar, Odisha, Andhra Pradesh, Tamil Nadu, Kerala, Karnataka, Maharashtra and Madhya Pradesh beside Puducherry.

**Habits and habitats:** It inhabits the moister parts of western and eastern India. It has forsaken forests to live with man in and about his dwellings and fields. They also take shelters in houses, gardens, groves, hedges or roadside trees.

**Habits and Habitats:** It has a particularly shrill bird-like call which it repeats again and again, accompanying its music with quick jerks of its tail. Their food is the usual food of all squirrels, fruits, nuts, young shoots, buds and bark. They may probably be treated as a pollinator of the flower of silk cotton at the time of drinking the nectar. They may be seen in the thorny cactus hedges in fruiting time. Insects are eaten at a pinch, as also the eggs of birds. They are persistent egg robbers. The female mates with more than one male. The period of gestation is about six weeks. Two or three young are produced. The females build an untidy nest of grass, leaves and fibres. Young are born blind and remain in the nest till able to fend for themselves.

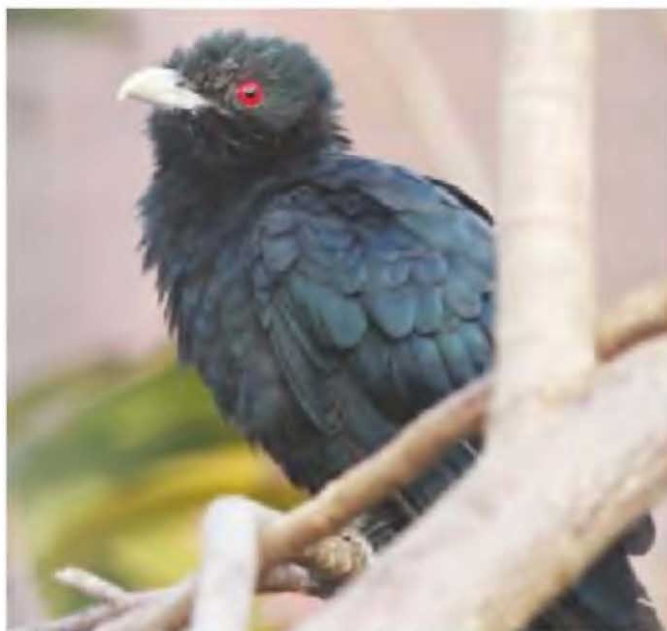
**Threats and Protection:** The principal threat to their survival is the destruction of forests. Their legs are being sold in the market for exhibit in the drawing room. For this, they are being killed and some tribal people hunt them for flesh also. Conservation status is Schedule IV in WL (P) Act, 1972. Conservation Status – Least Concern (IUCN 2012.1).

## State Bird

**Koel.** Scientific name *Eudynamys scolopacea* and it was first discovered by Linnaeus in 1758 at Malabar. Common name is Asian Koel (Eng.), Koel (Hindi).

**Salient features:** It is more or less the size of a House Crow and length is approx. 43 cm. The male has a glistening metallic black all over with yellowish green bill and crimson eyes. The female has above dark brown, profusely white spotted and barred, tail and wings barred with white, below white spotted on chin, throat and fore neck.

**Distribution:** It is a resident bird and some times it is nomadic and local migrant. They are found all most through out India.



**Habits and Habitats:** It resides in lightly wooded country, mango orchards and grooves of trees, around cultivation, towns and villages. They are diurnal in nature and keep in solitary. They mainly feed on caterpillar, bug, various insects, snails and eggs of small birds, fruits, berries etc. Breeding season is March to August.

**Threats and Protections:** It is common and is protected under Schedule IV of WL (P) Act, 1972. Conservation Status – Not Evaluated (IUCN 2012.1).

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#### **Web sources of Informations:**

<http://www.fsi.nic.in;>

<http://dictionary.cambridge.org;>

<http://indiabiodiversity.org;>

<http://threatenedtaxa.org;>

<http://www.archive.org;>

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<http://www.bnhservis.nic.in;>

<http://www.cites.org;>

<http://www.iol.co.za;>

<http://www.wwfindia.org;>



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# **Relevant Notifications**

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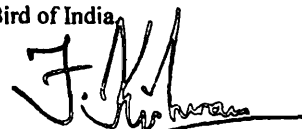
**F. No. 25-1/2008-WL-I**  
**Government of India**  
**Ministry of Environment and Forests**  
**(Wildlife Division)**

**Paryavaran Bhawan,**  
**CGO Complex, Lodhi Road,**  
**New Delhi-110003**  
**Dated: 30<sup>th</sup> May 2011**

**NOTIFICATION**

**Sub: Re-notification of Tiger and Peacock as the National Animal and National Bird respectively.**

The Government of India had notified 'Tiger' and 'Peacock' as 'National Animal' and 'National Bird' respectively. However, the said notifications of the Government of India are not forthcoming in the official records of the Ministry of Environment and Forests for quite some time. In view of this, the Ministry of Environment and Forests, Government of India, hereby re-notifies the 'Tiger' as the National Animal and 'Peacock' as the National Bird of India.

  
(Jagdish Kishwan)

**Additional Director General of Forests (WL) &  
Director, Wildlife Preservation**

30.05.2011

**The General Manager**  
**Government of India Press**  
**New Delhi.**

**Copy to:**

1. All Ministries/Departments of Government of India including Planning Commission.
2. The Chief Secretaries, all States.
3. The Administrators, all Union Territories.
4. The Principal Secretary/Secretary, Department of Forests, all States/Union Territories.
5. The Chief Wildlife Wardens, all States/Union Territories.
6. The Regional CCFs, Regional Office, NR/SR/ER/WR/NER/CR, Ministry of Environment and Forests.
7. All Subordinate Offices of Ministry of Environment and Forests.
8. All Sections/Divisions of the Ministry of Environment and Forests, New Delhi.
9. All Members National Board for Wildlife.
10. The Press Information Officer, Ministry of Environment and Forests.
11. The NIC Cell, Ministry of Environment and Forests (MoEF) - with a request to upload the above on the official website of MoEF.

**(GAZETTE NOTIFICATION TO BE PUBLISHED IN THE GAZETTE OF INDIA  
EXTRA ORDINARY)**

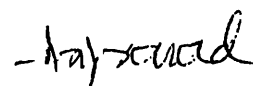
Government of India  
Ministry of Environment & Forests

Paryavaran Bhawan,  
CGO Complex, Lodi Road,  
New Delhi-110003.

Dated 21.10.10

**NOTIFICATION**

F. No. 1-35/2010-PE (.) In pursuance to the recommendation made by the Task Force on Project Elephant and approval by the Standing Committee of the National Board for Wildlife (NBWL) in its meeting held on 13<sup>th</sup> October, 2010, Government of India hereby declares Elephant as National Heritage Animal of India.



(A.N. Prasad)

Inspector General of Forests and  
Director (Project Elephant)

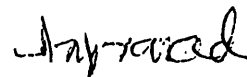
To

The General Manager  
Government of India  
Mayapuri, New Delhi

(Together with the copy the Hindi version of the Notification)

Copy to:

1. All Ministries/Department of Government of India including Planning Commission.
2. The Chief Secretaries, all States.
3. The Administrations, all Union Territories
4. The Principal Secretary/Secretary, Department of Forests, all States/UTs.
5. The Chief Wildlife Wardens, all States/UTs.
6. The Regional CCF's Regional Office/NR/SR/ER/WR/NER/CR, MoEF.
7. All Subordinate Offices of Ministry of Environment & Forests.
8. All Sections/Divisions of the Ministry of Environment & Forests, New Delhi.
9. All Members National Board for Wildlife.
11. The Press Information Officer, MoEF.
11. The NIC Cell, MoEF – with a request to upload the above on the official website of MoEF.



A.N. Prasad)

Inspector General of Forests and  
Director (Project Elephant)

F. No. 6-74/2009 WL  
Government of India  
Ministry of Environment & Forests

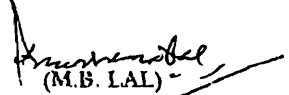
Paryavaran Bhawan  
CGO Complex, Lodhi Road  
New Delhi-110003  
Dated: 10<sup>th</sup> May, 2010.

**NOTIFICATION**

\*\*\*\*\*

**Sub: Declaration of Gangetic Dolphin as National Aquatic Animal.**

In pursuance to the recommendation made by the National Ganga River Basin Authority (NGRBA) in its first meeting held on 5<sup>th</sup> October, 2009 and approval by the National Board for Wildlife (NBWL) in its 5<sup>th</sup> meeting held on 18<sup>th</sup> March, 2010, both under the Chairmanship of Hon'ble Prime Minister, the Ministry of Environment & Forests, Government of India declares Gangetic Dolphin as National Aquatic Animal of India.

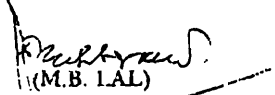
  
(M.B. LAL) -  
Additional Director General of Forests (WL) &  
Director, Wildlife Preservation.

The General Manager,  
Government of India Press,  
New Delhi.

(Together with the copy the Hindi version of this Notification)

Copy to:

1. All Ministries/Departments of Government of India including Planning Commission.
2. The Chief Secretaries, all States.
3. The Administrators, all Union Territories
4. The Principal Secretary/Secretary, Department of Forests, all States/UT's.
5. The Chief Wildlife Wardens, all States/UT's
6. The Regional CCF's, Regional Office, NR/SR/ER WR/NER/CR, MoEF.
7. All Subordinate Offices of Ministry of Environment & Forests
8. All Sections/Divisions of the Ministry of Environment & Forests, New Delhi.
9. All Members National Board for Wildlife.
10. The Press Information Officer, MoEF
11. The NIC Cell, MoEF- with a request to upload the above on the official website of MoEF

  
(M.B. LAL)  
Additional Director General of Forests (WL) &  
Director, Wildlife Preservation.

**GOVERNMENT OF ANDHRA PRADESH  
FOREST DEPARTMENT**

**From:**

Sri Hitesh Malhotra, I.F.S.,  
Pri.Chief Conservator of Forests (WL) &  
Chief Wildlife Warden and  
I/c Pri. Chief Conservator of Forests (HOFF),  
Aranya Bhavan, Saifabad,  
A.P., Hyderabad

**To:**

The Director,  
Zoological Survey of India  
Ministry of Environment of Forests,  
Government of India,  
M-Block, New Alipore,  
Kolkata 700 053, West Bengal,  
India.

**Re.No. 48886/2011/WL-3, Dt: 19.12.2011**

**Sir,**

**Sub:-** WL – Information on State Animal and Bird – Reg.

**Ref:-** Director Zoological Survey of India, MoEF, GOI,  
F.No.H.O.O/2011/14184, Dt.28.11.2011.

\*\*\*

With reference to the above cited, it is informed that, the state animal of A.P. is Black Buck (Antelope Cervicapra) and State Bird is Palapitta or Blue Jay (Indian Roller).

This is for information and necessary action.

Yours faithfully

Sd/- Hitesh Malhotra  
Pri. Chief Conservator of Forests (WL) &  
Chief Wildlife Warden and  
I/c Pri.Chief Conservator of Forests(HoFF)

//True Copy//

  
for Pri.Chief Conservator of Forests

**GOVERNMENT OF ASSAM  
OFFICE OF THE PRINCIPAL CHIEF CONSERVATOR OF FORESTS &  
HEAD OF FOREST FORCE::ASSAM  
REHABARI:: GUWAHATI - 8.**

Phone No.(Off.):0361-2541319

Fax No.0361-254738

E-mail-pccfassam@gmail.com

No. FG.26/ DSABTF/ 2002

Dated Guwahati, the 15th Dec/ 2011

To,

The Director,  
Zoological Survey of India,  
Ministry of Environment and Forests,  
M-Block, New-Alipore,  
Kolkata-700 053 (West Bengal).

Sub:- Information on State Animal and Bird.

Ref: Your letter No.F.No.H.O.O./ 2011/ 14187, dated 28/ 11/ 2011.

Sir,

With reference to your letter cited above, I am directed to enclose herewith a copy of Govt. Notification No.FRW.29/ 2002/ 5, dated 31/ 03/ 2003 in respect of declaration of State Animal and State Bird relating to the State of Assam as desired.

This is for favour of kind information and needful.

Encl: As stated above.

Yours faithfully,



(S.K. Bora, IFS)

Conservator of Forests (Legal)

O/o the Principal Chief Conservator of Forests and

Head of Forests Force, Assam, Rehabari,

Guwahati-8.



# THE ASSAM GAZETTE

অসাধাৰণ

EXTRAORDINARY

প্ৰাপ্ত কৰ্তৃত্বৰ দ্বাৰা প্ৰকাশিত

PUBLISHED BY AUTHORITY

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নং 68 দিশপুৰ, শনিবাৰ, 19 এপ্ৰিল, 2003, 29 চ'ত, 1925 (শক)  
No. 68 Dispur, Saturday, 19th April, 2003, 29th Chaitra, 1925 (S.E.)

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GOVERNMENT OF ASSAM  
ORDERS BY THE GOVERNOR  
ENVIRONMENT & FOREST DEPARTMENT

## NOTIFICATION

The 31<sup>st</sup> March 2003

NO. FRW- 29/2002/5. The Governor of Assam is pleased to declare the following animal, bird, tree and flower respectively as the State Animal, State Bird, State Tree and State Flower of the state of Assam with immediate effect. The scientific names of the different species are given in italics.

STATE ANIMAL . . . . . **Indian one-horned rhinoceros** *Rhinoceros unicornis*.

STATE BIRD. . . . . **White-winged Wood Duck** *Cairina scutulata*.

STATE TREE . . . . . **Hollong** *Dipterocarpus macrocarpus*.

STATE FLOWER . . . . . **Fox-tail orchid** *Rhynchostylis retusa*.

DR ANWARUDDIN CHOUDHURY  
Joint Secretary  
to the Government of Assam,  
Environment & Forest Dept, Dispur.

S.K. MUKHERJEE  
JOINT DIRECTOR (WL)

Paryavaran Bhawan,  
CGO Complex, Lodi Road,  
Phase II

3

D.O.No.1-2/83- (WL)

January 19, 1987.

Dear Shri Kumar,

Please refer to your letter No.Vanya Prani/50/85/8496 dated 1st August, 1985 regarding decision taken by Bihar Govt. to adopt Gaur, Parakeet, Sisoo and Rose as the State animal, bird, tree and flower and to say that this Department has approved the proposal. However, it is mentioned that Gaur and Rose have already been declared as state animal and flower by Goa, Daman & Diu and Punjab Government respectively. It is, therefore, advised that Bihar Government may wish to select some other animal and flower as State animal and flower to avoid the duplication. Action taken or proposed to be taken may kindly be intimated to us at an early date.

With regards,

Yours sincerely,

( S.K. MUKHERJEE )

Shri M. Kumar, Special Secretary,  
Government of Bihar, Forest &  
Environment Department, PATNA-15.

Copy to :-

- (1) Shri S. Deb Roy, Chief Wildlife Warden, Government of Assam, Rehabari, GAUHATI. Kindly refer to this Department's letter of even number dated 30th May, 1985 on the above cited subject. From the State Government of Assam, only Rhinoceros has been proposed to be ~~accepted~~ adopted as State animal but no proposal has been forwarded regarding state bird, tree and flower. This Department has approved adoption of Rhinoceros as State animal. It is further advised that action may be taken to declare white-winged wood duck, Bamboo and champa as the State bird, tree and flower early under intimation to us.
- (2) Shri H.A. Vaishnav, Chief Wildlife Warden, Government of Gujarat, Kothi Annexe, Vadodara. State Government of Gujarat has proposed to adopt Asiatic lion as the State animal which is approved by this Department. It is further advised that Flamingo, neem and Indian laburnam

...2/-

may also be declared as state bird, tree and flower respectively at an early date. Action taken or proposed to be taken in the matter may kindly be intimated to us early.

- (3) Forest Secretary, Government of Haryana, Forest Department, Chandigarh w.r.t. their letter No.6013-Ft-I/85/16897 dated 30.10.85. It is stated that this Department has approved your action to declare black buck, black partridge, peepal and lotus as state animal, bird, tree and flower.
- (4) Shri A.K. Mukherjee, Chief Conservator of Forests, Government of Himachal Pradesh, Department of Forest Farming & Conservation w.r.t. their letter No.D.XII-18/1970 dated 17.7.85. It is stated that this Department has approved musk deer, monal pheasant, deodar, & bish or stis to be declared as State animal, bird, tree and flower respectively. Kindly take necessary action to issue the notification to this effect under intimation to this Department.
- (5) Additional Chief Conservator of Forests, Nature Conservation, Government of Maharashtra, M.S-Nagpur w.r.t. his letter No.D-2(1)/TA/283(80-81)/914/84-85 dated 16th July, -1984. It is stated that your proposal to declare Giant squirrel, green pigeon and mango as state animal, bird and tree has been approved by this Department. It is advised that Jarul may be adopted as state flower. Please take further action in the matter under intimation to us.
- (6) Shri P.S. Moktan, Secretary-cum-Chief Conservator of Forests, Government of Sikkim, Gangtok w.r.t. his letter No.182/F dated 10.7.86. It is stated that your proposal to declare Red panda, Hood pheasant, rhododendron reveum and Dendrobium nobile as state animal, bird, tree and flower has been approved by this Department. Please take further action in the matter under intimation to us.
- (7) Shri J.K. Mehta, Chief Wildlife Warden, Government of Arunachal Pradesh, Itanagar, State Government of Arunachal Pradesh has proposed Hoolock and Hornbill as State animal and bird respectively. This has been approved by this Department. It is, however, advised that Hollong and fox tail orchid may be adopted as State tree and flower respectively under intimation to this Department.
- (8) Shri A Abdulshukoor, Assistant Director(Animal Husbandry, Department of Animal Husbandry, Union Territory of Lakshdweep, KNVARATTI w.r.t. his letter No.8/1-58/83-AH dated 20.10.83. It is stated that your proposal to declare butterfly fish, sooty tern and coconut as state animal, bird and tree respectively is approved by this Department. Please adopt State flower also under intimation to this Department. A

.....3/-

proposal in this regard may be submitted to this Department for approval.

- (9) Deputy Director(WLP), Western Region, Bombay,  
Deputy Director(WLP), Eastern Region, Calcutta.  
Deputy Director(WLP), Northern Region, NEW DELHI.

  
( S.K. MUKHERJEE )

Telephone No. 44-8698.

No. W-44/83(WLER)-  
Government of India,  
Deptt. of Environment, Forest & Wildlife,  
Wild Life Preservation, Eastern Region,  
Nizam Palace, 2nd M.S.O. Building, 6th floor,  
234/4, Acharya Jagadish Chandra Bose Road,  
Calcutta - 700 020.

Dated Calcutta, the

To  
The Regional Deputy Director,  
Wild Life Preservation, Southern Region,  
77-II-Main Road, Gandhi Nagar, Adyar,  
Madras - 600020.

Sub: State animal, bird, tree & flower - Reg.

Ref: Your letter No. 12-14/WSR/86 dt. 8.1.87.

S i r,

I am enclosing the list of state animal, birds, tree & flower  
of States of eastern Region.

| <u>State</u>              | <u>State animal</u>                   | <u>State bird</u>                                 | <u>State tree</u>                     | <u>State flower</u>            |
|---------------------------|---------------------------------------|---|---------------------------------------|--------------------------------|
| West Bengal               | Not yet received                      | Not yet received                                  | Chatis                                | Parijat                        |
| Nagaland                  | Binturong                             | Blyth's Tragopan                                  | hollock                               | Blue Vanda                     |
| Arunachal Pradesh         | Hollock                               | Hornbill  | Hollong                               | Fox tail Orchid                |
| Andaman & Nicobar Islands | Dolphin                               | Mega Pode<br>(Mepodius freyinet<br>nicobariensis) | Padauk<br>(Pterocarpus dalbergioides) | Kaya<br>(Pandanus andamanicus) |
| Tripura                   | ( Not yet approved by the Ministry)   |   |                                       |                                |
| Meghalaya                 | Clouded leopard                       | Hill Myna   | Gamari                                | Lady's slipper orchid.         |
| Mizoram                   | ( Not yet approved by the Ministry)   |   |                                       |                                |
| Orissa                    | ( Not Yet approved by the Ministry).  |   |                                       |                                |
| Manipur                   | Santal<br>( <u>Cervus eldi eldi</u> ) | Musa's bartailed pheasant<br>(Syrmaticus lamiae)  | Mirzy Lily<br>(Lilium mukilinae)      | Toon<br>(Toona ciliata)        |
| Sikkim                    | Red panda                             | Blood pheasant                                    | <u>Mhododendron reveum</u>            | <u>Dendrobium nobili</u>       |
| Bihar                     | Gaur                                  | Parakeet S  | Sisoo                                 | Rose                           |
| Assam                     | Rhinoceros                            | White-winged wood duck                            | Bamboo                                | Champa.                        |

Further, I would request you to furnish the details early in respect  
of states of your region.

Yours faithfully,

(Kalyan Chakrabarti)  
Regional Deputy Director  
Eastern Region

Government of Goa  
Office of the  
**Addl. Principal Chief Conservator of Forests**  
Forest Department  
Gomantak Maratha Samaj Bldg.  
Panaji - Goa.

---

No.2-WL-Cons-Birds-07-2011-FD/5699

Dated: 26-12-2011

To,  
The Director,  
Zoological Survey of India,  
Ministry of Environment and Forests,  
Office M-Block,  
New Alipore, Kolkata 700 053,  
West Bengal.

**Sub: Information on State Animal and Bird.**

Sir,

I am directed to refer to your letter No.H.O.O/2011/14191 dated 28.11.2011 on the above quoted subject and to furnish the relevant information as follows:

1. **State Animal** - Bison / *Bos-gaurus*
2. **State Bird** - Ruby throated yellow bulbul / *Pycnonofus melanicterus gularis*.

Yours faithfully,

  
(Debendra Dalai) IFS  
Dy. Conservator of Forests  
Planning & Statistics

**Forest Department, Government of Haryana**  
**O/o Additional Principal Chief conservator of Forests (Wildlife)**  
**-cum- Chief Wildlife Warden, Haryana**

Van Bhawan, C-18, Sector-6, Panchkula-134109 Phone/Fax 0172-2563977 E-mail- apccfwl@gmail.com

---

No. 1571

Dated 27-12-11

To

Dr. K. Venkataraman,  
Director, Zoological Survey of India,  
Ministry of Environment & Forests,  
Government of India,  
M-Block, New Alipore, Kolkata – 700053,  
West Bengal, India.  
Phone No. +91-90-24008595, 24006893  
Fax No. +91-90-24008595, 24006893

**Sub : Information on State Animal and Bird.**

**Ref: Your office letter F.No.H.O.O./2011/14188 dated 28-11-2011**

\*\*\*\*\*

It is to inform you on the subject cited above that State animal of Haryana is  
"Black Buck" and the Bird is "Black Partridge"

Addl. P.C.C.F. (Wildlife)  
Cum-Chief Wildlife Warden,  
Haryana, Panchkula.

HIMACHAL PRADESH FOREST DEPARTMENT  
WILDLIFE WING

From: No. WL/Misc. Matter/WLM/ 5445  
Pr.CCF (Wildlife) –cum-  
Chief Wildlife Warden H.P.

To: Dr. K. Venkataraman,  
Director,  
Zoological Survey of India  
Ministry of Environment & Forests  
Government of India  
M-Block, New Alipore, Kolkata-700053,  
West Bengal, India.

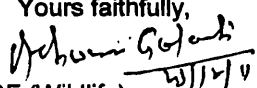
Dated, Shimla the 24/12/11

Subject: Information on State Animal and Bird.  
Sir,

Kindly refer to your office letter No. H.O.O/2011/14183 dated 28.11.2011 on the subject cited above.

2. The information as desired vide your office letter under reference is enclosed herewith for your kind information please.

Encl: As above.

Yours faithfully,  
  
Pr. CCF (Wildlife)-cum-  
Chief Wildlife Warden, H.P.

GOVERNMENT OF HIMACHAL PRADESH  
FOREST DEPARTMENT

No. FFE-B-F(6)-13/2005-Loose

Dated, Shimla-2, the 12-11-07

NOTIFICATION

Consequent to the decision taken in the 3<sup>rd</sup> meeting of the State Board for Wildlife, the Governor of Himachal Pradesh is pleased to notify the following :

1. Snow Leopard ( *Uncia uncia* ), as the State Animal
2. Western Tragopan ( *Tragopan melanocephalus* ), as the State Bird
3. Pink Rhododendron ( *Rhododendron campanulatum* ), as the State Flower


By order

Principal Secretary (Forests) to the  
Government of Himachal Pradesh.

Endst. No. FFE-~~13/2005~~(6)-13/2005-Loose Dated, Shimla-2, the 12-11-07

Copy forwarded for favour of information and necessary action to.

1. All the Administrative Secretaries to the Government of Himachal Pradesh, Shimla-171002.
2. All the Divisional Commissioners in H.P.
3. All the Heads of Departments in H.P.
4. The Principal Chief Conservator of Forests, H.P.
5. The Chief Wildlife Warden, H.P.
6. All the Deputy Commissioners in H.P.
7. The Controller, Printing & Stationary Department.
8. All A PCCFs/ CCFs in H.P.
9. All CFs /DFOs (Territorial & Wildlife) in H.P.
10. Guard file (110 spare copies).

  
Special Secretary (Forests) to the  
Government of Himachal Pradesh

GOVERNMENT OF JAMMU AND KASHMIR  
CIVIL SECTT: FOREST DEPARTMENT

...

Subject: Adoption of State Bird/Animal/Tree and Flower.

Reference: D.O. letter NO:1-2/83 (WL) Dated 5-1-87 from Government of India, Ministry of Environment and Forests, New Delhi

....

Government Order NO: 135-FST of 1987

Dated: 11-5-1987

...

Whereas some States in the country having in the recent past adopted certain species of birds/animals as the State Birds/ Animals;

Whereas the matter was examined by the Government of India in consultation with the State Government, and it was decided that every State should have its own State animal, bird, tree and flower;

Now, therefore, the following animal, bird, tree and flower in the Jammu and Kashmir State, as proposed by the State Government and approved by the Government of India, are hereby declared and adopted as State Animal/Bird/Tree and Flower respectively as noted again each:-

- |                 |  |
|-----------------|--|
| 1. State Animal | <u>Kashmir Stag</u><br><u>Hangul</u><br>Cervus elaphus |
| 2. State Bird   | <u>Black necked Crane</u><br>Grus nigricollis          |
| 3. State Tree   | <u>Chinar</u><br><u>Paltanes orientalis</u>            |
| 4. State Flower | <u>Blue Poppy</u><br>Menopsis aculeata                 |

By Order of the Government of Jammu & Kashmir

Sd/-  
( N. R. Gupta )  
Secretary to Government  
Forest Department

NO: FST/ WL/22/83

Dated: 11-5-1987

Copy forwarded for information to the:

143

झारखण्ड सरकार,  
वन एवं पर्यावरण मंत्रालय ।

अधिसूचना

रांची, दिनांक- 5.1.2002.

संख्या- वन्य प्राणी-10/2001- 41 व.प., राज्य सरकार वन्य जीव., जिनके अन्तर्गत वन्य प्राणी एवं वनस्पति दोनों आते हैं, के संरक्षण एवं विकास को नीति दृढ़ता के साथ कार्यान्वित हो रही है। कुछ वन्य प्राणी एवं वनस्पतियाँ राज्य की संस्कृति एवं भौगोलिक परिवेश से विशेष रूप से जुड़े हैं। वन्य जीवन संरक्षण की नीति के प्रसंग के रूप में राज्य सरकार निम्नलिखित को राजकीय वन्य जन्तु घोषित करती है ।

|    |                |                                    |
|----|----------------|------------------------------------|
| कः | राजकीय पशु -   | हाथी @ <u>Elaphus maximus</u>      |
| खः | राजकीय पक्षी - | कोयल @ <u>Eudynamis scolopacea</u> |
| गः | राजकीय वृक्ष - | ताल @ ( <u>Shorea robusta</u> )    |
| घः | राजकीय पुष्प - | पलास @ ( <u>Butea monosperma</u> ) |

झारखण्ड राज्यपाल के आदेश से,

ह0/- परितोष-उपाध्याय,

विशेष कार्य पदाधिकारी  
सह अवर सचिव ।

आपांक- वन्य प्राणी 10/2001- 41 व.प., रांची, दिनांक- 5.1.2002

प्रतिलिपि अधीक्षक, मद्रास, झारखण्ड, रांची को प्रेषित करते हुए अनुरोध है कि इसे राजपत्र के आगामी अलाधारण अंक में प्रकाशित कराकर इसकी अतिरिक्त 500 प्रतियाँ इस विभाग को उपलब्ध कराने की कृपा की जाय ।

ह0/-

परितोष उपाध्याय ।  
विशेष कार्य पदाधिकारी  
सह अवर सचिव ।

रजनेश/

आपांक- वन्य प्राणी 10/2001- 41 व.प., रांची, दिनांक- 5.1.2002

प्रतिलिपि सरकार के सभी आयुक्त एवं सचिव / सभी विभागाध्यक्ष/ सभी प्रमंडलीय आयुक्त / सभी उपायुक्तों को सूचनायें प्रेषित ।

परितोष उपाध्याय ।  
विशेष कार्य पदाधिकारी  
सह अवर सचिव ।

आपांक- वन्य प्राणी 10/2001- 41 व.प., रांची, दिनांक- 5.1.2002

प्रतिलिपि प्रधान मुख्य वन संरक्षक, झारखण्ड, रांची / मुख्य वन संरक्षक सह मुख्य वन्य प्राणी प्रतिपालक, झारखण्ड, रांची/सभी क्षेत्रीय मुख्य वन संरक्षक, सभी मुख्य वन संरक्षक, सभी वन संरक्षक/ सभी वन प्रमंडल पदाधिकारी को सूचनायें प्रेषित ।

परितोष उपाध्याय ।  
विशेष कार्य पदाधिकारी  
सह अवर सचिव ।

GOVERNMENT OF KARNATAKA

NO. AHFF 72 FWL 83

Karnataka Government Secretariat,  
H.S. Building,  
Bangalore, Dated: 16/3/1990.

17

From,

The Secretary,  
Animal Husbandry, Fisheries & Forest Dept.,  
BANGALORE.

To, *joint*

The Secretary to Government (W.L.),  
Govt. of India, Ministry of Environment  
and Forests, Baryavaran Bhavan,  
C.C.O. Complex, Lodi Road,  
NEW DELHI.

Sir,

Sub: Adoption of State Bird/animal/Trees  
and Flower regarding

- Ref: 1. Letter No. 1.2/83-FRY(WL) dt. 17.3.88  
from the Joint Secretary to Govt. of  
India Dept. of Environment.  
2. D.O. Letter No. 1.2/83(WL) dt. 27.4.89  
and dt. 18.8.89 from the Joint Director  
(W.L) Govt. of India, New Delhi.

----

With reference to the above, I am directed to state  
that this State Government agrees to adopt 'Sandal wood Tree  
as State Tree; 'Koel' as State bird, 'Spot Deer' as state  
animal and Dravetamia Coronavia (Nandi Vardhan) as State  
flower and to request you to convey the approval of the  
Government of India.

Yours faithfully,

  
(G. K. KURDEK),

Desk Officer,  
Animal Husbandry, Fisheries  
Forest Dept.,

&



GOVERNMENT OF KERALA

No.48105/FM3/85/AD

Agriculture (Forest Misc) Department  
Dated, Trivandrum, 24-7-1985.

From

The Secretary to Government.

To

The Joint Secretary to Government of India,  
Ministry of Environment and Forests,  
Department of Forests and Wild Life,  
Wild Life Division, Krishi Bhavan,  
New Delhi.

Sir,

Sub:- Adoption of State Bird/Animal/Tree/Flower.

Ref:- Your letter No.1-2/83-WL-PF dated 30-5-85.

I am directed to invite a reference to your letter cited and to inform you that the State Government have decided to adopt the Elephant, the Great Indian Hornbill, the Coconut Tree and the 'Kanikonna' (Amaltas - Cassia Fistula) as State Animal/Bird/Tree and Flower respectively. The justification for the selection of the State Animal and Bird have already been explained in this Government letter No. 23270/FM3/83/AD dated 12-5-1983 (copy enclosed). In view of the above facts, I am directed to request you to accept the Indian Elephant, the Great Hornbill, the Coconut Tree, and the Kanikonna as the State animal, bird, tree and flower respectively.

Yours faithfully,

For Secretary to Government

कार्यालय प्रधान मुख्य वन संरक्षक (वन्यप्राणी), मध्यप्रदेश,  
प्रगति भवन, तृतीय तल, एम.पी.नगर, जोन-1, भोपाल  
दूरभाष 0755-2674206, 2674248 फ़ैक्स 0755-2766315

क्रमांक/प्रबंध/62/ 6037  
प्रति,

भोपाल, दिनांक 23-12-2011

Dr. K. Venkataraman  
Director, Zoological Survey of India  
Govt. of India (MoEF) M- Block,  
New Alipore Kolkata, West Bengal, India

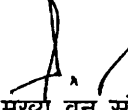
विषय:- **Information on State Animal and Bird.**

संदर्भ:- आपका पत्र क्रमांक/F. No. H.O.O./2011/14166 दिनांक 28.11.2011

—0—

उपरोक्त संदर्भित पत्र का अवलोकन कीजिए। विषयांकित प्रकरण में लेख है कि आपके द्वारा मध्यप्रदेश राज्य में घोषित राज्य पशु एवं पक्षी के संबंध में जानकारी चाही है। उक्त विषय में लेख है कि कार्यालय में उपलब्ध जानकारी के अनुसार मध्यप्रदेश में घोषित राज्य पक्षी, दूधराज के राजपत्र की छायाप्रति संलग्न है। तथा राज्य में घोषित राज्य पशु बारहसिंगा का राजपत्र कार्यालय में वर्तमान में उपलब्ध नहीं हो पा रहा है। प्रतिवेदन सूचनार्थ प्रेषित।

संलग्न :- उपरोक्तानुसार।

  
मुख्य वन संरक्षक (वन्यप्राणी)  
कार्या. प्रधान मुख्य वन संरक्षक (वन्यप्राणी)  
मध्यप्रदेश, भोपाल  
23/12/11

भापाल, दिनांक 12 अक्टूबर 1982

क्र. 14-16-77-दस (2).— चूंकि राज्य गोलन न दूधराज पक्षी का राज्य पक्षी घोषित किया है भारतीय वन्य प्राणी (संरक्षण) अधिनियम, 1972 को धारा 61(2) से प्रदत्त शक्तियों का उपयोग करते हुए, राज्य शासन एतद्वारा, दूधराज पक्षी के हित में उक्त अधिनियम की अनुसूचियों में निम्नानुसार परिवर्तन करता है:—

- (1) पक्षीदूधराज (पेराडाईज फलायकचर, टर्पसोफोन पैराडीसी आई) को छाड़कर सभी फलायकचर अनुसूची चार में रहेंगे
- (2) पक्षीदूधराज (पेराडाईज फलायकचर टर्पसोफोन पैराडीसी आई) को अनुसूची एक भाग 3 में स्थानान्तरित किया जाता है.

मध्यप्रदेश के राज्यपाल के नाम से तथा आदेशानुसार,  
जे. बी. शर्मा, उपसचिव.

Government of Manipur  
Office of the Addl. Principal Chief Conservator of Forests/Wildlife  
Imphal, Manipur.

No.1/28/2010(WL)B

Imphal, the 29<sup>th</sup> December 2011

To

The Director,  
Zoological Survey of India,  
Ministry of Environment & Forests,  
Government of India,  
New Alipore, Kolkata-700053  
West Bengal.  
Phone-90-24008595,  
Fax-90-24008595

Subject:-Information on State Animal and bird.

Sir,

With reference to your letter F.No.H.O.O./2011/14168 dt. 28.11.2011 on the above subject, I am to provide you the information on the declared State Animal and State Bird in respect of Manipur that:

1. The State animal of Manipur as declared vide Govt. order No.60/5/86-For(Pt) dated 21.3.1989 is "Sangai" in Manipur dialect. The common name is "Brow antlered deer". Its scientific name is "Cervus eldi eldi" MC Ieland and its synonymus name is "Rucervus eldi eldi" Thomas. Its natural habitat is the Keibul Lamjao National Park which covers 40 sq.km at the southern portion of Loktak Lake in Bishnupur district of Manipur.
2. The State bird of Manipur as declared vide Govt. order No.60/5/86-For (pt) dt. 21.3.1989 is "Nongyin" in Manipur District. The common name is "Hume's Bar-tailed pheasant"/ "Mrs Hume Bar backed Pheasant". The scientific name is "Syrnaticus himiae himiae". The bird is found in the hill region of the state and mostly in Ukhrul district of Manipur.

Yours faithfully,



( Dr. Anil Kumar )

Additional Principal Chief Conservator of Forests/Wildlife  
Government of Manipur

GOVERNMENT OF MANIPUR  
Office of the Chief Wildlife Warden  
Imphal; Manipur

No.3/10(A)/83-87/WLW/239 Imphal, the 22nd Oct. 1986.

To

The Regional Deputy Director,  
Wildlife Preservation, Eastern Region,  
Nizam Palace, 2nd M.S.O. Building,  
6th floor, 234/4, Acharya Jagadish  
Chandra Bose Road, Calcutta - 700020.

Sub :- State animal and bird.

Sir,

With reference to your letter No. W-8/78(WLER)-1894 dt. 16.10.86 on the above subject, I am to state that Sangai (Brow antlered deer), scientific name of which is Cervus eldi eldi, Hume's bar tailed pheasant (scientific name - *Syrnaticus humiae humiae*), Tairel (*Toona ciliata*), Siroy lily (*Lilium mackliniae*) have been adopted as state animal, State bird, State tree and State flower.

You may kindly inform the Regional Deputy Director, Wildlife Preservation (Southern Region) 77-II-Main Road, Gandhi Nagar Adyar, Madras-20

Yours faithfully,

*Sh. Tomchou Singh*  
(Sh. Tomchou Singh)  
Chief Wild Life Warden  
Government of Manipur

Memo No. 3/10(A)/83-87/WLW

Imphal, the 22nd Oct. 1986

- Copy to :-
1. Joint Secretary (F & W), Govt. of India, Ministry of Environment and Forests, Deptt. of Forests and Wildlife, Wildlife Division, Krishi Bhavan, New Delhi, for information.
  2. The Regional Deputy Director, Wildlife Prervation (Southern Region) 77-II-Main Road, Gandhi Nagar Adyar, Madras-20 for information. This has got a reference to his letter No. 12-41/WSR/86 dt. 1.10.86

(Sh. Tomchou Singh)  
Chief Wildlife Warden  
Government of Manipur

S.K. MUKHERJEE  
JOINT DIRECTOR (WL)

D.O.No.1-2/83-(WL)

Government of India  
Department of Environment, Forests & Wildlife  
Paryavaran Bhawan,  
CGO Complex,  
Lodi Road, ~~xxxxxxx~~ New Delhi- 3

January 5, 1986.

Dear Shri Tomchou Singh,

Please refer to your letter No.3/10(A)/83-85/  
WIW dated 15th July, 1985 and No.3/10(A)/83-87/WLW/  
260 dated 17.10.1986 regarding adoption of State bird,  
animal, tree and flower.

In this regard, I am to convey the approval of  
this Department to your proposals in the matter. As  
such, further action in the matter may be taken to  
declare sangai (Cervus eldi eldi), Mrs Hume's barred  
back pheasant, Toon (Toona ciliata) and siroy lily as  
the State animal, bird, tree and flower respectively  
under intimation to us.

With regards,

Yours sincerely,

*S.K. Mukherjee*

( S.K. MUKHERJEE )

Shri Tomchou Singh,  
Chief Wildlife Warden,  
Government of Manipur,  
IMPHAL.

\ Copy for information to Deputy Director(ER),  
Calcutta.

*S.K. Mukherjee*  
( S.K. MUKHERJEE )

**GOVERNMENT OF MEGHALAYA  
OFFICE OF THE CHIEF CONSERVATOR OF FORESTS: WILDLIFE CIRCLE  
MEGHALAYA: SHILLONG.**

No. FWC/G/56/4  
From,

Dated Shillong, the 20<sup>th</sup> Dec, 2011.

The Chief Conservator of Forests,  
Wildlife Circle,  
Meghalaya, Shillong.

To,

Dr.K.Venkataraman,  
Director,Zoological Survey of India,  
Ministry of Environment & Forests,Govt of India,  
New Alipore,Kolkata,  
West Bengal – 700053,India.

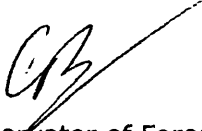
Subject :- Information on State Animal & Bird.

Ref :- Your letter F.No.H.O.O/2011/14169,Dt 28-11-2011.

Sir,

With reference to your letter cited above, I am sending herewith a copy of Govt. Notification No.FOR.112/99/Pt/152, Dt 18-04-05, relating to State Animal,Bird,Trees & Plant for your information and records.

Enclosed :- As above

  
Chief Conservator of Forests,  
Wildlife Circle,  
Meghalaya, Shillong.

Memo.No. FWC/G/56/4  
Copy to :-

Dated Shillong, the Dec, 2011.

The Conservator of Forests (HQ) for information.

Chief Conservator of Forests,  
Wildlife Circle,  
Meghalaya, Shillong.

GOVERNMENT OF MEGHALAYA  
FORESTS & ENVIRONMENT DEPARTMENT

.....

ORDERS BY THE GOVERNOR  
N O T I F I C A T I O N

Dated Shillong, the 18th April., 2005

NO.FOR. 112/99/Pt/152 - The Governor of Meghalaya is pleased to declare the following as State Symbol pertaining to Forest & Environment:-

- |                 |   |
|-----------------|---|
| 1. State animal | - Clouded Leopard ( <i>Neofelis nebulosa</i> )          |
| 2. State bird   | - Hill Myna ( <i>Gracula religiosa intermedia</i> )     |
| 3. State tree   | - Gamari ( <i>Gmelina arborea</i> )                     |
| 4. State plant  | - Lady's Slipper Orchid ( <i>Paphopedilum insigne</i> ) |

Sd/- B. Burkayastha,  
Secretary to the Govt. of Meghalaya,  
Forest & Environment Department

Memo NO.FOR. 112/99/Pt/152 -A Dated Shillong, the 18th April., 2005  
Copy forwarded to :-

1. Private Secretary to Minister, Forest & Environment for information of the Minister.
2. Principal Secretary, Govt. of Meghalaya, Forests & Environment.
3. Commissioner & Secretary, Govt. of Meghalaya, Forests & Environment.
4. Secretary, Govt. of Meghalaya, Forests & Environment.
5. Principal Chief Conservator of Forests, Meghalaya, Shillong.
6. The Chief Conservator of Forest, (Wildlife) Meghalaya, Shillong.
7. The Joint Director (Wildlife) Govt. of India, Ministry of Environment & Forests, Department of Environment & Forests & Wildlife, Paryavaran Bhavan, CGO Complex, Lodhi Road, New Delhi- 110023. This is with reference to Ministry's D.O Letter NO. 1-2/83-WL dt. 5.1.1987.
8. The Director, Printing & Stationery, Meghalaya, Shillong for favour of publication in the Meghalaya Gazette.
9. Office Copy
10. Guard file.

By order etc.,

*M. A. S. M. S. M. S.*  
Officer On Special Duty to the Govt. of Meghalaya  
Forest & Environment Department.

**GOVERNMENT OF MEGHALAYA**  
**DEPARTMENT OF FORESTS AND ENVIRONMENT**  
**OFFICE OF THE PRINCIPAL CHIEF CONSERVATOR OF FORESTS & HOFF : MEGHALAYA**

No.MFG.11/22/98/Vol-II/

Dated Shillong, the ...December, 2011.


To,  
**The Chief Conservator of Forests,**  
Wildlife,  
Meghalaya, Shillong.

Sub: *Information on State Animal & Bird.*

Sir,  
With reference to the subject cited above, I am directed to enclosed a copy of letter No.H.O.O/2011/14169, dated 28<sup>th</sup> November, 2011, received from Dr K Venkataraman, Director, Zoological Survey of India, Ministry of Environment & Forests, West Bengal, which is self explanatory for your kind information and necessary action.

Encl: As above

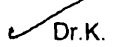
Yours faithfully


  
**(B.K. LYGWA, IFS)**  
Conservator of Forests (H.Q.)  
Meghalaya, Shillong.

Memo No. MFG.11/22/98/Vol-II/A **11381**

Dated Shillong, the 13<sup>th</sup> December, 2011

Copy for information to:-

 Dr.K. Venkataraman, Director, Zoological Survey of India, Ministry of Environment & Forests, Govt. of India, New Alipore, Kolkata, West Bengal-700053, India.

  
Conservator of Forests (H.Q.)  
Meghalaya, Shillong

GOVERNMENT OF MIZORAM  
OFFICE OF THE CHIEF WILDLIFE WARDEN  
ENVIRONMENT & FOREST DEPARTMENT  
AIZAWL :: MIZORAM

\*\*\*\*

No.B.17014/1/2010-CWLW/305

:

Dated Aizawl, the 20<sup>th</sup> Dec/2011

To,

The Director,  
Zoological Survey of India, M-Block  
New Alipore, Kolkata – 700053  
Ministry of Environment & Forests  
West Bengal.

*Subj :* Information on State animal & Birds – reg.

*Ref :* Your letter No.F.H.O.O/2011/14170 dt.28.11.2011


Sir,

Reference above, I am submitting herewith information regarding Mizoram State Animal and State Bird. The Mizoram State Animal and State Bird have been adopted vide the Mizoram Gazette extra ordinary published by Authority Vol.XXX Aizawl, issue No.230 dated 15.10.2001.

- 1) Mizoram State Animal - Serow (*Capricornis sumatraensis*) – Saza (local name)
- 2) Mizoram State Bird – Humes' bar-tailed pheasant(*Syrnaticus humiae*)– Vavu(local name)

This is for your kind information and necessary action.


Yours faithfully,

  
( LIANZIMA LAILUNG )  
Conservator of Forests(WL)  
Mizoram :: Aizawl

Memo No.B.17014/1/2010-CWLW/305 :  
Copy to :-

Dated Aizawl, the 20<sup>th</sup> Dec/2011

Principal Chief Conservator of Forests, Mizoram, Aizawl for information.

  
Conservator of Forests(WL)  
Mizoram :: Aizawl

Draft this

**GOVERNMENT OF NAGALAND  
OFFICE OF THE PRINCIPAL CHIEF CONSERVATOR OF FORESTS &  
HEAD OF FORESTS FORCE  
NAGALAND: KOHIMA.**

No. FG-4/4/83/ 9932

Dated Kohima the 27<sup>th</sup> January' 2012.


To,

The Director.  
Zoological Survey of India,  
Ministry of Environment & Forests,  
M-Block, New Delhi Alipore,  
Kolkata 700 053, West Bengal.

**Sub: Information on State Animal & Bird.**

With reference to your letter regarding information on State animal and bird, I would like to inform you that the State animal is Mithun (*Bos. Frontalis*) and State bird is Tragopan (*Blythe's Tragopan*).

This is for your information and necessary action.



**(ALBERT SOLO)**  
Chief Conservator of Forests (EBR)  
Nagaland, Kohima.

MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS  
DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND WILDLIFE

LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO.1798

TO BE ANSWERED ON THE 30TH JULY, 1986

DECLARATION OF STATE ANIMAL, BIRD, TREE AND FLOWER

1798. PROF. NARAIN CHAND PARASHAR:

Will the PRIME MINISTER प्रधान मंत्री  
be pleased to state;

(a) whether Union Government in consultation with the various State Governments have decided to declare one animal, one bird, one tree and one flower as State Animal, bird, tree and flower respectively for each state;

(b) if so, whether the selection has been made in respect of all the States;

(c) if so, the names of such State animal, bird, tree and flower for which the decision has been taken; and

(d) the likely date by which the decision regarding the remaining States would be made ?

A N S W E R

पर्यावरण और वन मंत्रालय में राज्य मंत्री

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS.

§ श्री जेड. आर. अंसारी §

( SHRI Z.R. ANSARI )

(a) A suggestion was given to all States and Union Territories to adopt their own state animal, bird, tree and flower to focus attention on the indigenous nature of particular species of wildlife. To avoid duplication in selecting such species, the State Governments/Union Territory Administrations were requested to send their proposals in this regard to the Central Government.

(b) & (c) Some of the States have sent their proposals and from some States proposals are yet to be received. A statement showing the suggestions of the Central Government, and species adopted or proposed to be adopted by the States, is attached.

(d) No specific date can be given, as it is upto the States when or whether or not to adopt any state animal, bird, tree and flower.

.....

No: Misc./201-I/ 5399.

From

Chief Wildlife Warden, Punjab  
S.A.S. Nagar, Mohali.

To

Director,  
Zoological Survey of India,  
Ministry of Environment and Forests,  
Government of India,  
M-Block, New Alipore, Kolkata

Dated: 04/01/2012.

**Subject** Information on State Animal and Bird.

**Reference** Your letter No.H.O.O/2011/14202 dated 28.11.2011

\*\*\*\*\*

Information asked in the letter under reference is given below:

- (1) **State Animal:** "Black Buck (*Antelope cervicapra*) notified vide Notification No. 34/13/Ft.IV-83/6044 dated 15.3.1989 (Annexure-1).
- (2) **State Bird:** "Baz (Eastern Goshawk)" notified vide notification No. 34(13)Ft-IV-83/6044 dated 15.3.1989 (Annexure-2).

Encl. As above.



Chief Wildlife Warden, Punjab  
S.A.S. Nagar, Mohali.

GOVERNMENT OF PUNJAB  
DEPARTMENT OF AGRIC. & FORESTS  
(Forest Branch)

NOTIFICATION

No. 34/13/Ft. IV-83/6044 Chandigarh, dated the 15.3.89

The President of India is pleased to declare  
Black Buck (Antelope Cervicapra) as State animal of Punjab from the  
date of issue of this notification.

A.S. POONI  
Financial Commissioner Development &  
Secretary to Govt. Punjab,  
Forest Department.

No. 34(13)Ft. IV-83/6045 Chandigarh, dated the 15.3.89

A copy with one spare copy is forwarded to the  
Controller, Printing & Stationery, Punjab Chandigarh for publishing  
the above notification in the extra ordinary State Gazette.

2. 40 copies of printed notification may please be  
supplied to this department in due course of time.

..... Joint Secretary Development.  
No. 34(13)Ft. IV-83/6046 Chandigarh, dated the 15.3.89

A copy is forwarded to the following:-

1. All the Commissioners in the State.
2. All the Deputy Commissioners in the State.
3. Secretary to Govt. of India, Ministry of Environment &  
Forests, Department of Forests & Wildlife, Wild Life  
Division, CGO Complex, Lodhi Road, New Delhi with  
reference to their D.O. No. 1-2/83(WL-1)V-II, dated  
13.12.1988.

Principal Chief Conservator of Forests, Punjab,  
Chandigarh.

Joint Secretary Development.

A copy is forwarded to the Deputy Secretary (Coordination,  
Govt. of Punjab, Department of General Administration (Cabinet Affairs  
Branch) for information and necessary action with reference to his  
U.O. No. 1/112/88-Cabinet/dated 29.7.1988.

Joint Secretary Development.

To

The Deputy Secretary (Coordination),  
Govt. of Punjab,  
Department of General Administration,  
(Cabinet Affairs Branch)

U.O. No. 34(13)Ft. IV-83/6047 Chandigarh, dated the 15.3.89

[Extract from the Punjab Government Gazette (Extra), dated the 15th March, 1989 ]

**GOVERNMENT OF PUNJAB**  
**DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE AND FORESTS**  
**(FOREST BRANCH)**  
Notification

The 15th March, 1989

No. 34(13)Ft.-IV-83/6048.—In supersession of Punjab Government Notification No. 46 (195)Ft.-IV-80/9209, dated 1st December, 1983, the President of India is pleased to declare 'BAJ' (Eastern Goshwak) as State Bird of Punjab and in exercise of the powers conferred by the sub-section (1) of section 16 of the Wild Life (Protection) Act, 1972 (Central Act No. 53 of 1972) and all other powers enabling him in this behalf, the President of India is also pleased to declare the whole year to be a closed time throughout the State of Punjab for the 'BAJ' (Eastern Goshwak).

**A. S. POONI,**  
Financial Commissioner, Development and  
Secretary to Government, Punjab,  
Forest Department.

31773 CS(P)—Govt. Press, U.T., Chd.

S.C. Sharma  
Joint Director (NL)

D.O. NO.1-2/83(NL-I) V-II

The 13th December, 1988

Dear Sh. Bhadin,


Please refer to your letter NO.34(13) Pt.IV-83/  
28607 dt. 22.11.88 regarding adoption of State Bird/Animal &  
Tree. Your proposal for adopting state Animal/Bird&Tree has  
been considered by this department and following has been  
approved.

|              |       |                                   |
|--------------|-------|-----------------------------------|
| State Animal | ----- | Black Buck (Antelope cervicapra.) |
| State Bird   | ----- | Baj (Eastern Goshawk)             |
| State Tree   | ----- | Sisham.                           |

In view of the above, you are advised to issue  
necessary orders for adopting state animal, bird&tree and  
intimate to this department in due course.

With regards,

Yours Sincerely,

  
O/S ( S.C. SHARMA )

Sh. G.D. Bhadin,  
Joint Secretary (Development)  
Govt. of Punjab, Deptt. of Agriculture  
and Forests,  
Forest Branch,  
CHANDIGARH.

Government of India  
Department of Environment, Forests & T.  
Paryavaran Bhawan,  
CGO Complex,  
Lodi Road, ~~xxxxxxxxxx~~ New Delhi-3

S.K. MUKHERJEE  
JOINT DIRECTOR (WL)

January 5, 1987.

D.O.No.1-2/83-WL

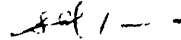
Dear Shri Majithia,

Kindly refer to your letter No.F.11(33)Rev.Gr.8/  
77 dated 1.10.1985 regarding adoption of State bird,  
animal, tree and flower.

I am to convey the approval of this Department  
to your declarations of chinkara, Great Indian bustard,  
Khejri and flower of Rehida tree as the State animal,  
bird, tree and flower respectively.

With regards,

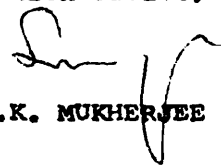
Yours sincerely,



( S.K. MUKHERJEE )

Shri R.J. Majithia,  
Secretary to the Government  
of Rajasthan,  
Revenue (Gr.VIII) Department,  
JAIPUR copy to :

1. Shri O.P. Mathur, Chief Wildlife Warden, Government  
of Rajasthan, Bhagwan Das Road, JAIPUR.
2. Deputy Director, Wildlife Preservation Office,  
Western Region, BOMBAY.



in ( S.K. MUKHERJEE )

IMMEDIATE

राजस्थान सरकार  
REVENUE (GR. S) DEPTT.

Shri Vinay Tandon,  
Dy. Director (WL) to the  
Govt. of India,  
Deptt. of Environment, Forests &  
Wildlife, Wildlife - I Section,  
New Delhi.

No.P. 11(33)Rev.8/77

Jaipur, dated: 30/7/87

Sub:- Declaration of State bird/Animal/Tree and Flower.

Sir,

I am directed to refer to the Govt. of India, Deptt. of Environment, Forests & Wildlife (Wildlife -I Section) New Delhi letter No. 1-2/83("L) dated 17.6.87 on the subject cited above and to say that vide this deptt. letter of even no. dated 1.10.85 the Govt. of India was informed about the following adoption made by the State Government:-

- |                                 |                        |
|---------------------------------|------------------------|
| (i) State Animal of Rajasthan   | - Chinkara             |
| (ii) State Bird of Rajasthan    | - Great Indian Bustard |
| (iii) State Flower of Rajasthan | - Flower of Rohida     |
| (iv) State tree of Rajasthan    | - Khejri               |

The Government of India has conveyed to <sup>its</sup> Approval for adoption of State Bird, animal, tree, and flower as above vide Joint Director (WL) Government of India, Ministry of Environment & Department of, Environment, Forests & Wildlife, Paryavaran Bhawan C.G.O. Complex Lodi Road, New Delhi-110003, D.O. letter No. P. 2/83 WL dated 5.1.87.

Yours faithfully,

  
Asstt. Secretary to the Government



ABSTRACT

1115 - Adoption of State Bird/Animal/Tree/Flower for Tamil Nadu - Suggestion of Government of India - Orders - Issued.

FOR THE SECRETARY TO THE GOVERNMENT

Ms.No.746  
Dated: 28.6.88

Ami-14, Vibava,  
Thiruvalluvar Anu 2019

Read:-

1. G.O.No.129, Forests and Fisheries, dt.21.2.79
2. From the Government of India, Ministry of Environment and Forests  
Lr.No.1-2/85 WL Pt, dt.30.5.85
3. From the Chief Wildlife Warden Lr.No.83/87 G1, dt.31.3.87
4. From the Government of India, Ministry of Environment and Forests  
Lr.No.1-2/85 WLI, dt.24.5.88

Details

The Government of India in their letter fourth read above have approved the proposal of the State Government for adopting the following as State Animal/Bird/Tree/Flower of Tamil Nadu:

- |           |                    |
|-----------|--------------------|
| 1) Animal | - Nilgiri Tahr     |
| 2) Bird   | - Emerald Dove     |
| 3) Tree   | - Palayra          |
| 4) Flower | - Gloriosa superba |

2. The Government accordingly declare the following as State Animal/Bird/Tree/Flower of Tamil Nadu:

- |           |   |
|-----------|---|
| 1) Animal | - Nilgiri Tahr (Varaiyadu in Tamil)       |
| 2) Bird   | - Emerald dove (Panjavarna pura in Tamil) |
| 3) Tree   | - Palayra (Panaal in Tamil)               |
| 4) Flower | - Gloriosa superba (Kandai in Tamil)      |

3. The Principal Chief Conservator of Forests and the Chief Wildlife Warden are requested to give wide publicity in this matter.

(SIGNED BY THE GOVERNOR)

M.A.K.TAJAN

DEPUTY COMMISSIONER & SECRETARY TO GOVERNMENT

- TO
- The Principal Chief Conservator of Forests, Madras-6
  - The Chief Wildlife Warden, 1710, Trichy Road, Coimbatore-45
  - The Secretary to Government of India, Ministry of Environment & Forests, Department of Environment Forests & Wildlife, Paryavaran Bhavan, OGO Complex, Lodhi Road, Phase-II, New Delhi-110 003
  - Copy to the Information & Public Relations Department, Madras-9

Forwarded/By Order

sl.24.0

Handwritten notes and stamps at the bottom right of the page.

No.F.8(56)/For-WL/87/1719-60  
GOVERNMENT OF TRIPURA  
FOREST DEPARTMENT


Dated, Agartala, Kunjaban  
The 20.8.1988

NOTIFICATION

The Governor, Tripura has been pleased to declare the following animal, bird, tree and flower as State animal, bird, tree and flower for the State of Tripura.

1. State Animal : Phayre's Leaf Monkey.
2. State Bird : Imperial Pigeon.
3. State Tree : Agar.
4. State Flower : Nageswar (Mesia ferrea).

By order of the Governor,

  
(R.N. Chakraborty)  
Principal Secretary  
Government of Tripura.

Copy to :-

1. The Joint Secretary(WL), Government of India.  
Ministry of Environment and Forests, Department of Forests & Wild Life, Block 'B' phase -II, CGO. Complex, Lodi Road, New Delhi-110003.
2. The Regional Dy. Director, Eastern Region, Government of India, Department of Environment, Forest & Wildlife, Wildlife Preservation, Nizam Palace, 2nd MSO Building, 6th floor 234/4, Acharya Jagadish Chandra Bose Road, Calcutta - 700020.
3. The P.S. to the \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_ for information of the Minister (All).
4. The Manager, Tripura Government Press with a request to publish the notification in the next issue of Tripura gazette.
5. The Divisional Forest Officer, Sadar/Working Plan No. I & II/ Research/Training/Udaipur/Bagafa/Gunti/Teliamura/Ambassa/Manu/Kailashahar/Kanchanpur.
6. The Wildlife Warden, Trishna Wildlife Sanctuary, Bagafa/ Sepahijala Wildlife Sanctuary.
7. The Principal Chief Conservator of Forests, Tripura.
8. The Chief Wildlife Warden, Tripura.
9. The Conservator of Forests, Western Circle, Agartala/Northern-Circle, Kumarghat/Southern Circle, Udaipur
10. Guard file of Wildlife Section.

OFFICE OF THE CHIEF WILD LIFE WARDEN, UTTAR PRADESH, LUCKNOW

No. 26 /23-2-G, Dated, Lucknow, June July 2 ., 1987

To,

Dy. Director (Wildlife)  
Govt. of India  
Deptt. of Environment  
Forest & Wildlife  
(Wildlife Section -I)  
Paryavaran Bhawan  
Phase-II, C.G.O., Complex  
Lodhi Road,  
New Delhi

Sub:- Declaration of State bird/Animal/Tree & flower

Ref:- Your letter No. 1-2/83-(WL), dated 17.6.87

Dear Sir,

It is to inform you that Govt. of U.P. Deptt. of Forest-3 vide G.O. No. 6183/14-3-109/1986, dated 20.2.87 have declared state bird/Animal/Tree and flowers as under :-

- |                 |                                       |
|-----------------|---------------------------------------|
| 1. State Animal | - Cervus duvauceri (Swamp deer)       |
| 2. State Bird   | - Grus antigone (Sarus)               |
| 3. State Tree   | - Polyalthia longifolia (Ashoka)      |
| 4. State Flower | - Saussurea obvallata. (Brahma Kamal) |

Yours faithfully,

*R.P. Sharma*  
(R.P. Sharma)  
Chief Wild Life Warden,  
U.P., Lucknow

L/1/7

**GOVERNMENT OF WEST BENGAL**

**DIRECTORATE OF FORESTS**

Office of the Principal Chief Conservator of Forests, Wildlife  
& Chief Wildlife Warden, West Bengal  
Bikash Bhawan, North Block, 3<sup>rd</sup> Floor, Salt Lake City, Kolkata – 700 091  
Tel No 23346900/2358-3208, Fax 91-033-2334-5946  
E-mail: <wildlife@cal.westbengal.gov.in> Website: <www.wildbengal.com>

No.:

488/WL/W-654/12

Dated:

09/2/12

To  
Dr K Venkataraman.  
Director,  
Zoological Survey of India,  
Prani Vigyan Bhavan,  
M-Block, New Alipur,  
Kolkata-700 053.

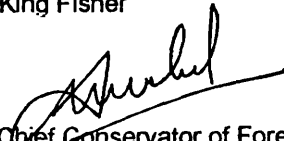
**Sub:** Information of State Animal and Bird.

**Ref:** Your letter No. H.O.O./2011/14204 dated 28.11.2011.

\*\*\*\*\*

This is to inform that the State animal and bird of West Bengal are as mentioned below -

State Animal ..... Fishing Cat  
State Bird ..... White throated King Fisher

  
Principal Chief Conservator of Forests  
Wildlife  
& Chief Wildlife Warden, West Bengal

No. CWLW/WL/3/564

प्रधान मुख्य वन संरक्षक का कार्यालय (वन्य प्राणी)

**OFFICE OF THE PRINCIPAL CHIEF CONSERVATOR OF FORESTS (WILDLIFE)**

अण्डमान तथा निकोबार द्वीप समूह / ANDAMAN AND NICOBAR ISLANDS

वन सदन, हैडो / VAN SADAN, HADDO

\*\*\*\*\*

पोर्ट ब्लेयर / PORT BLAIR dated the 4<sup>th</sup> January, 2012

To

**The Director,**  
Zoological Survey of India,  
Ministry of Environment & Forests,  
Govt. of India,  
M-Block, New Alipore,  
Kolkata- 700 053,  
West Bengal.

**Sub: Information on State Animal and Bird-reg..**

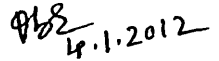
**Ref: Your letter No. H.O.O/2011/14181 dated 28/11/2011**

Sir,

With reference to your letter under reference on the subject cited above, it is to inform that the Dugong (Dugong dugon), Andaman Wood Pigeon (Columba palum biodes) and Andaman Padauk (Pterocarpus delbergioides) are declared State Animal, State Bird and State Tree respectively in the UT of Andaman & Nicobar Islands vide Notification No. 241/2006/CWLW/WL/3/775 dated 19<sup>th</sup> December, 2006. A copy of the notification is also enclosed herewith.

Yours faithfully

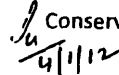
**Encl: As above**

  
4.1.2012

(के.बी.सिंह)

(K.B. SINGH)

वन संरक्षक (ईको टूरिज्म)

 Conservator of Forests (Eco-Tourism)  
4/1/12

**Copy to:**

1. The Principal Chief Conservator of Forests, Andaman & Nicobar Islands with reference to his Endt No. F.7 (9 G-I)/6/Vol.III/773 dated 21/12/2011 alongwith a Notification for information.

अण्डमान तथा  
Andaman And



निकोबार राजपत्र  
Nicobar Gazette

असाधारण

EXTRAORDINARY

प्राधिकार से प्रकाशित

Published by Authority

सं. 251, पोर्ट ब्लेयर, मंगलवार, 19 दिसम्बर, 2006

No. 251, Port Blair, Tuesday, December 19, 2006

**ANDAMAN AND NICOBAR ADMINISTRATION  
(DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS)**

**NOTIFICATION**

**Port Blair, dated the 19<sup>th</sup> December, 2006**

No. 241/2006/CWLW/WL/3/775.—Whereas the Committee for State Board for Wildlife for the Union Territory of Andaman and Nicobar Islands constituted under section 6 of the Wildlife (Protection) Act, 1972, met on 22.04.2004 under the Chairmanship of the Hon'ble Administrator, Andaman & Nicobar Administration, Port Blair and recommended to declare State Animal/State Bird/State Tree vide section 8 of the Wildlife (Protection) Act, 1972.

Now, therefore, in exercise of the powers conferred under section 8 read with sub-section 29 of section 2 of the Wildlife (Protection) Act, 1972, the Administrator, Andaman & Nicobar Islands hereby declares the following as State Animal/State Bird/State Tree:-

- |   |   |              |
|---|---|--------------|
| 1. Dugong (Dugong dugon)                      | — | State Animal |
| 2. Andaman Wood Pigeon (Columba palum boides) | — | State Bird   |
| 3. Andaman Padauk (Pterocarpus dalbergioides) | — | State Tree   |

The UT Administration will ensure that adequate efforts are made to conserve these species.

By order and in the name of the Administrator,

Sd/-

(Rama Shankar Sinha)

Deputy Secretary,

Environment & Forests,

Andaman & Nicobar Administration.

Paryavaran Bhawan,  
CR Complex,  
Lodi Road, XXXXXXXXXX

3

S.K. MUKHERJEE  
JOINT DIRECTOR (WL)

January 5, 1987.

D.O.No.1-2/83-(WL)

Dear Shri Bhatte,

Please refer to this Department's letter of even number dated 30.5.1985 regarding adoption of State bird, animal, tree and flower. You have proposed dolphin and megapode as the State animal and bird respectively. We do agree to this proposal. As regards State tree and flower, I am to advise you that padauk and keys may be declared as State tree and flower respectively.

Necessary further action in the matter may be taken under intimation to us.

With regards,

Yours sincerely,

( S.K. MUKHERJEE )

Shri S.S. Bhatte,  
Chief Wildlife Warden,  
Government of Andaman & Nicobar  
Islands, PORT BLAIR.

Copy to :

1. Secretary to the Administrator, Union Territory of Dadra & Nagar Haveli, SILVASSA-396230 w.r.t. his letter No.7-2/14-ND.2202 dated 21.8.85. Your proposal for declaring striped hayena, lesser golden backed wood pecker, sterculia urous and butea monasporma as state animal, bird, tree and flower has been approved by this Department. Please take further necessary action in the matter and intimate to us.
2. Deputy Director(WR)/Deputy Director(ER)

( S.K. MUKHERJEE )

No. DCF/DMN/Wildlife/253/Part-I/2011-12/ 608  
U.T. Administration of Daman & Diu,  
Office of the  
Deputy Conservator of Forests,  
Daman & Diu.  
Daman

Dated :- 23 / 12 / 2011.

To,  
The Director,  
Zoological Survey of India,  
Ministry of Environment and Forests,  
M-Block,  
New Alipore,  
Kolkata - 700 053,  
West Bengal.

Sub :- Information on State Animal and Bird - regarding.

Ref :- Your letter no. H.O.O./2011/14196 dated : 28/11/2011.

Sir,

With reference to your letter cited above. the information regarding State Animal and Bird may be treated as "NIL", so far as the U.T. of Daman & Diu is concerned.

Yours faithfully,



Deputy Conservator of Forests,  
Daman & Diu,  
Daman.

S.K. MUKHERJEE  
JOINT DIRECTOR (WL)

Paryavaran Bhawan,  
JGO Complex, Lodi Road  
Phase II

3

D.O.No.1-2/83-(WL)

January 10, 1987.

Dear Shri Sarangi,

Please refer to your letter No.F.30(72)/CMLW/03/2 dated 23.12.1983 regarding adoption of blue bull, shahon and peepal as the State animal, bird and tree respectively. Your action in this regard has been approved by this Department. As regards adoption of state flower, it is advised that Lagerstroemia indica may be adopted as the State flower.

The necessary action in the matter may be taken under intimation to us.

With regards,

Yours sincerely,

*sd/-*

( S.K. MUKHERJEE )

Shri Jadava Sarangi,  
Wildlife Officer,  
Office of the Chief Wildlife  
Warden (Deputy Commissioner)  
Tis Hazari Court, DELHI.

Copy to :-

- (1) Shri S.L. Chatterjee, Secretary, Forest, Fisheries & Animal Husbandry Department, Government of Orissa, Bhubaneshwar w.r.t. his letter No.8F(w)-22/85/11083/FFAH dated 11.7.85, No.8F(w)/22/85/12391/FFAH dated 1.8.85 and No.15797/8F(W)-22/85/FFAH dated 20.9.85. This Department has approved your proposal to adopt Sambar, Blue Jay and Ashoka as the State animal, bird and flower. Since Peepal (Aswatha) has been adopted as State tree by Delhi already, you are advised to select some other tree as State tree and take necessary action to declare under intimation to us.

.....2/-

GOVERNMENT OF PUDUCHERRY  
DEPARTMENT OF FORESTS & WILDLIFE  
Mullaigam, Forest Campus  
Cuddalore Main Road, Mudaliarpot Post  
Puducherry – 605 004  
Phone : 2204808; Fax : 0413-2204936

No.105/F&WL/CF/2011-12/ 177

Dated: 23/12/11

To  
The Director,  
Zoological Survey of India,  
Ministry of Environment & Forests,  
M-Block, New Alipore,  
Kolkata- 700 053.

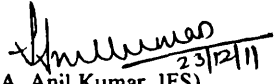
Sub: Information on State Animal and bird.  
Ref : Your communication F.No. H.O.O/2011/14195 dated 28/11/11.

Sir,

With reference to the subject matter cited, the information in respect of the UT of Puducherry is furnished hereunder,

1. State Animal : SQUIRREL [*Funambulus palmarum*]
2. State Bird : KOEL [*Eudynamys scolopaceus*]

Yours faithfully,

  
(Dr. A. Anil Kumar, IFS)  
Conservator of Forests  
23/12/11

