



# **ENVIRONMENTAL SCIENCE AND SUSTAINABILITY**

## **Unit – 1 ENVIRONMENT AND BIODIVERSITY**

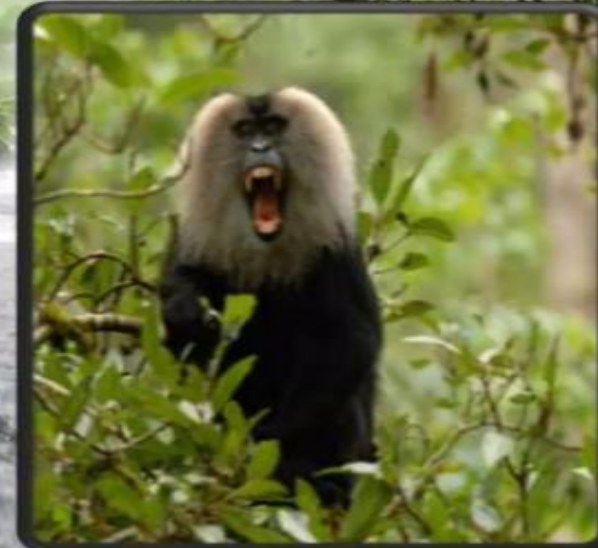
# Endangered species

*An endangered species is a population of organism which is at a risk of becoming extinct because it is either few in numbers, or threatened by changing environmental or predation parameters.*



# Endemic species

When species are found in particular geographical region because of its isolation, soil and climatic conditions, it is said to be endemic.





## Some endangered and endemic species of India

Asiatic lion



The Asiatic lion which survives today only in the Gir forest of Gujarat, were also known as Indian lion or Persian lion. In 2005 Gujarat government reported that 359 Asiatic lions were sighted in the Gir forest.



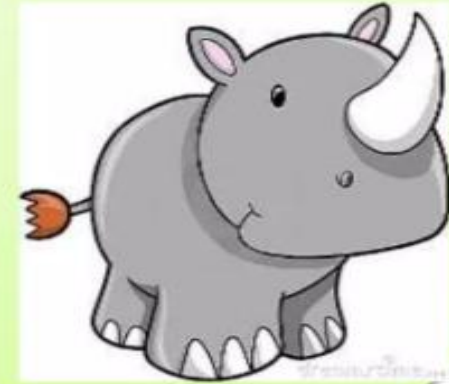
## Nilgiri tahr

Nilgiri tahr is endemic to nilgiri hills and the southern portion of western ghats in the states of tamil nadu and kerela in southern India.





Sumatran rhinoceros



*Sumatran rhinoceros is the smallest rhino weighing about 500 – 800 kg. The decline in the number of sumatran rhinoceros is attributed primarily to poaching for their horns. They are estimated to be 300 in number.*

# OTHER ENDANGERED SPECIES



Asiatic cheetah



Bengal fox



Gaur



Markhor



Marbled cat



Indian elephant



# OTHER ENDEMIC SPECIES

F  
A  
U  
N  
A



Lion tailed macaque



Nilgiri langur



Brown palm civet

F  
L  
O  
R  
A



Sapria himalayana



Ovaria lurida



Nepenthis khasiana



## Factors affecting endangered species

1

Human beings dispose wastes indiscriminately in nature thereby polluting the air, land and water. These pollutants enter the food chain and accumulate in living creatures resulting in death.



2

Over-exploitation of natural resources and poaching of wild animals also lead to their extinction.

3

Climate change brought by green house gases threatens organisms and ecosystems leading to their death and extinction.





## Factors affecting endemic species.



- Habitat loss and fragmentation due to draining and filling of inland wetlands.
- Pollution also plays an important role.





## MEASURES TO CONSERVE ENDANGERED AND ENDEMIC SPECIES.

- ✓ Know what species in your area are endangered.
- ✓ Volunteer your time to protect the wildlife in your area.
- ✓ Make certain that your home is not a hazard to wildlife.
- ✓ Plant native flora.
- ✓ Do not use toxic herbicides or pesticides.
- ✓ Watch the road and drive carefully.
- ✓ Recycle and buy recycled or reusable products.
- ✓ Do not purchase illegal products that come from endangered species.
- ✓ Support zoos and other wildlife parks.
- ✓ Get active and spread the word .
- ✓ Reduce the amount of pollution that you cause.
- ✓ Read up on the subject.