

EVS
PROJECT REPORT
ON
ENDANGERED SPECIES OF
ANIMALS IN INDIA



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Asiatic lion- *Panthera leo persica* (Meyer)



The Asiatic lion also known as babbar sher in hindi. The only place in the wild where this species is found is in the Gir Forest in Kathiawar of Gujarat, India. The Asiatic lion is one of the five major big cats found in India, the others being the Bengal tiger, the Indian leopard, the snow leopard and leopard. They prey mainly on cattle, deer, pig and other herbivore by making a short, high –speed charge upto 80 km per hour.

- The Asiatic lions once ranged from the Mediterranean to the northeastern parts of the Indian subcontinent, but excessive hunting, habitat destruction, decline in natural prey and human interference have reduced their number. This forest is the last refuge of the Asiatic lion in the world, other than those protected in various zoos.

Indian Bustard- *Ardeotis nigriceps*

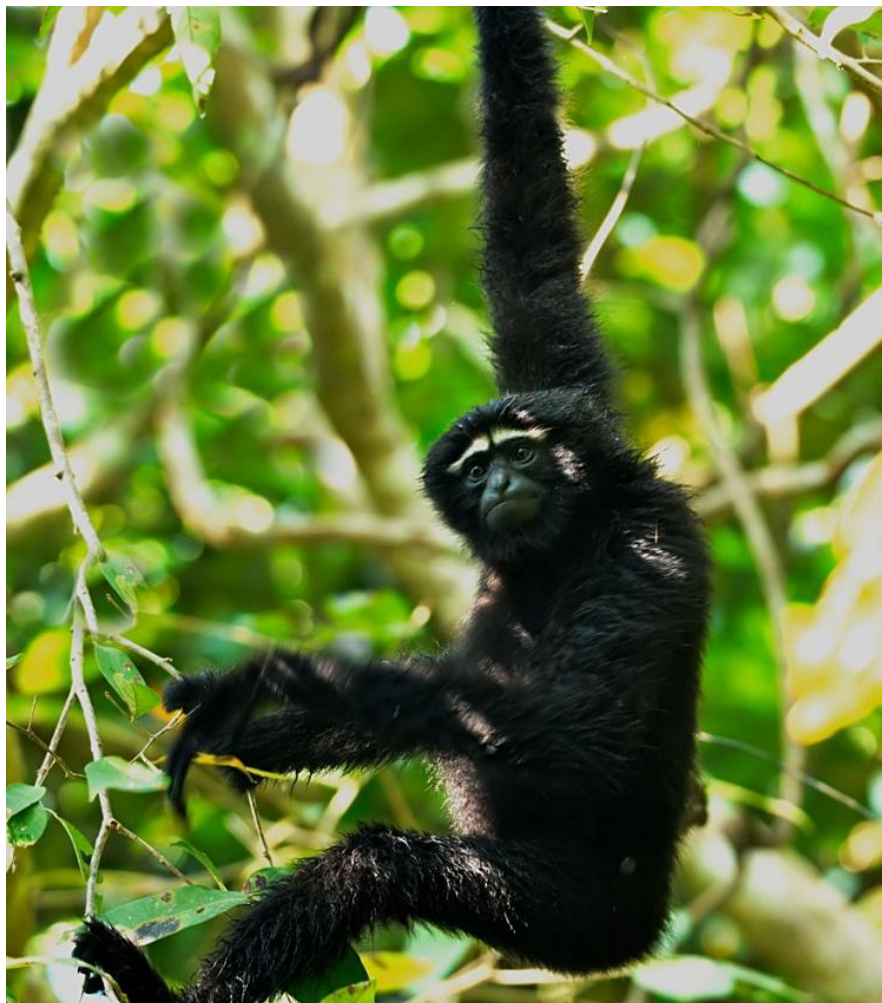
(Vigors)Great



The **Great Indian Bustard** (*Ardeotis nigriceps*) or **Indian Bustard** is a [bustard](#) found in [India](#) and the adjoining regions of [Pakistan](#). A large bird with a horizontal body and long bare legs giving it an ostrich like appearance, this bird is among the heaviest of the flying birds. Once common on the dry plains of the [Indian subcontinent](#), as few as 250 individuals were estimated in 2011 to survive and the species is critically endangered by hunting and loss of its habitat, which consists of large expanses of dry grassland and scrub.^[2] These birds are often found associated in the same habitat as [blackbuck](#).

The Great Indian Bustard is a large ground bird with a height of about a metre. It is unmistakable with its black cap contrasting with the pale head and neck. The body is brownish with a black patch spotted in white. The male is deep sandy buff coloured and during the breeding season has a black breast band. The crown of the head is black and crested and is puffed up by displaying males. In the female which is smaller than the male, the head and neck are not pure white and the breast band is either rudimentary, broken or absent.^[3]

HoolockGibbon (Hylobateshoolock)



Hoolocks are the second-largest of the gibbons, after the [siamang](#). They reach a size of 60 to 90 cm and weigh 6 to 9 kg. The sexes are about the same size, but they differ considerably in coloration: males are black-colored with remarkable white brows, while females have a grey-brown fur, which is darker at the chest and neck. White rings around their eyes and mouths give their faces a mask-like appearance.

The range of the hoolocks is the most northwestern of all the gibbons, extending from [northeast India](#) to [Myanmar](#). Small populations (in each case few hundred animals) live also in eastern [Bangladesh](#) and in southwest [China](#). In northeast India, the hoolock is found south of Brahmaputra and east of the Dibang Rivers.^[3] Its range extends into seven states covering Arunachal Pradesh, Assam, Manipur, Meghalaya, Mizoram, Nagaland, and Tripura (*The seven northeastern states of India*).^{[4][5]}

Like the other gibbons, they are [diurnal](#) and [arboreal](#), [brachiating](#) through the trees with their long arms. They live together in monogamous pairs, which stake out a territory. Their calls serve to locate family members and ward off other gibbons from their territory. Their diet consists mainly of fruits, insects and leaves.

Young hoolocks are born after a seven-month gestation, with milky white or buff-colored hair. After about six months, the hair of males will darken and turn black, while the female hair remains buff-colored throughout her life. After eight to 9 years, they are fully mature and their fur reaches its final coloration. Their life expectancy in the wild is about 25 years.

The leopard cat (*Prionailurus bengalensis*)



Leopard cats are about the size of a [domestic cat](#), but more slender with longer legs and well-defined webs between the toes. Their small head is marked with two prominent dark stripes, their short and narrow muzzle white. There are two dark stripes running from the eyes to the ears, and smaller white streaks running from the eyes to the nose. The backs of their moderately long and rounded ears are black with a central white spot. Body and limbs are marked with black spots of varying size and color, and along the back are two to four rows of elongated spots. The tail is about half the size of their head-body-length and spotted with a few indistinct rings near the black tip. The background color of their spotted fur is tawny with a white chest and belly. But in their huge range, they vary so much in coloration and size of spots as well as in body size and weight that initially they were thought to be several different [species](#). The fur color is yellowish brown in the southern populations, but pale silver-grey in the northern ones. The black markings may be spotted, rosetted, or even forming dotted streaks, depending on the subspecies. In the [tropics](#), leopard cats weigh 0.55 to 3.8 kg (1.2 to 8.4 lb), have a head-body-length of 38.8 to 66 cm (15.3 to 26 in) with a 17.2 to 31 cm (6.8 to 12 in) long tail. In northern China and [Siberia](#), they weigh up to 7.1 kg (16 lb), and have a head-body-length of up to 75 cm (30 in); generally, they put on weight before winter and become thinner until spring.^[3] Shoulder height is about 41 cm (16 in).

