



NILGIRI TAHR
(*Nilgiritragus hylocrius*)

BENGAL TIGER
(*Panthera tigris*)

LEOPARD
(*Panthera pardus*)



CHITAL
(*Axis axis*)



SAMBAR
(*Rusa unicorn*)



BLACKBUCK
(*Antelope cervicapra*)



ASIAN ELEPHANT
(*Elephas maximus*)



GRIZZLED GIANT SQUIRREL
(*Ratufa macroura*)



DHOLE
(*Cuon alpinus*)



NILGIRI LANGUR
(*Semnopithecus johnii*)



LION-TAILED MACAQUE
(*Macaca silenus*)



GREY SLENDER LORIS
(*Loris lydekkerianus*)



MADRAS HEDGEHOG
(*Paraechinus nudiventris*)



SALIM ALI'S FRUIT BAT
(*Latidens salimalii*)



DUGONG
(*Dugong dugong*)



ASIAN EMERALD DOVE
(*Chalcophaps indica*)



GREAT HORNBILL
(*Buceros bicornis*)



NILGIRI LAUGHINGTHRUSH
(*Montecinca cachinnans*)



PIED KINGFISHER
(*Ceryle rudis*)



PAINTED STORK
(*Mycteria leucocephala*)



MALABAR PARAKEET
(*Psittacula columboides*)



INDIAN CORMORANT
(*Phalacrocorax fuscicollis*)



SPOT-BILLED PELICAN
(*Pelecanus philippensis*)



BRAHMINY KITE
(*Haliastur indus*)



TAMIL NADU

The state of Tamil Nadu lies at the Southern tip of India. The state is best owed with the Western Ghats which is one among the four biodiversity hotspots in the country. The state comprises of a variety of landscapes and ecosystems that is home to a wide range of endemic and endangered wild floral and faunal species, wildlife, indigenous people and varied ecosystems. The state is bound by the Pulicat lagoon in the north and confluence of the Indian Ocean, the Arabian sea and the Bay of Bengal on the south of it.

It has the second longest coastline in the country that runs along the eastern border of the state, beside the Bay of Bengal. The lofty mountains of the Western Ghats form the western frontier of Tamil Nadu separating it from the neighbouring state of Kerala. Tamil Nadu is the only state where the Western Ghats and Eastern Ghats meet to form a discontinuous range of mountains. The mountain ranges in the Eastern Ghats contribute to the biodiversity richness of the state.

Tamil Nadu has three important Biosphere Reserves i.e., Nilgiris Biosphere reserve, Gulf of Mannar Marine Biosphere reserve and the Agasthiyamalai Biosphere reserve, apart from many rivers, wetlands and streams, supporting the thriving agricultural activity within the state.



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KODAIKANAL BUSH FROG
(*Raorchestes dubois*)



INDIAN BURROWING FROG
(*Sphaerotheca breviceps*)



ASIAN COMMON TOAD
(*Duttaphrynus melanostictus*)



MUGGER
(*Crocodylus palustris*)



NILGIRI FOREST LIZARD
(*Calotes nemoricola*)



SPECTACLED COBRA
(*Naja naja*)



INDIAN ROCK PYTHON
(*Python molurus*)



OLIVE RIDLEY TURTLE
(*Lepidochelys olivacea*)



PIGMOUTH CARP
(*Labeo kontius*)



HUMPBACK MAHSEER
(*Hypseobarbus mussallah*)



INDIAN SPINY LOACH
(*Lepidocephalichthys thermalis*)



MULLYA GARRA
(*Garra mullya*)



PONDICHERRY SHARK
(*Carcharhinus hemiodon*)



TAMIL YEDMAN
(*Cirrochroa thais*)



SOUTHERN BIRDWING
(*Troides minos*)



COMMON BANDED PEACOCK
(*Papilio crino*)



INDIAN ROCK BEE
(*Apis dorsata*)



GIANT WOODSPIDER
(*Nephila pilipes*)



ASIAN PALMYRA PALM
(*Borassus flabellifer*)



FLAME LILY
(*Gloriosa superba*)



JACKFRUIT
(*Artocarpus heterophyllus*)



BANYAN
(*Ficus benghalensis*)



FLAME OF THE FOREST
(*Butea monosperma*)



GREY MANGROVE
(*Avicennia marina*)

Illustrated by Rohan Chakravarty for WWF India