



vulnerable species | found in a dry deciduous area, showing that even the dry zones of our country are home to unrealised skink diversity.

Skinks → are lizards belonging to the family Scincidae, a family in the infraorder Scincomorpha | generally carnivorous and in particular insectivorous | are diurnal and are usually secretive in their habits | also non-venomous.

17. **Common crane** | stand at 4 feet tall with a wingspan of over 7 feet, and used to be the largest birds in Ireland | connected with the history and culture of the country, featuring in folklore tales and in the names of towns | destruction of their habitat saw them disappear around the 16th and 17th century.

Bogs → are soft, spongy wetlands that accumulate peat– a fossil fuel that is used for heating homes and businesses in northern Europe | also act as carbon sinks.

18. **Elephant Seals** | get their name from the prominent noses of the males that resemble an elephant's trunk | largest seals on earth | IUCN Status: Least Concern | eat rays, skates, fish, squid, and sharks that live near the bottom of the ocean | two species of elephant seals -- Northern Elephant Seals (found across the Pacific coast of the United States, Canada and Mexico; breed and give birth in California and Baja California); Southern Elephant Seals (live in sub-Antarctic and Antarctic waters that feature brutally cold conditions, breed on land but spend their winters in the frigid Antarctic waters near the Antarctic pack ice).

19. **Snow leopard** | Habitat: Cold High Mountains | found in 12 countries including China, Bhutan, Nepal, India, Pakistan, Afghanistan, Russia & Mongolia | states of Jammu and Kashmir, Himachal Pradesh, Uttarakhand, Sikkim and Arunachal Pradesh constitute snow leopard Habitat range in India | IUCN Red List: Vulnerable | Wildlife Protection Act, 1972: Schedule I | State animal of Himachal Pradesh.

World Wide Fund → an international non-governmental organization | Est. 1961 | HQ: Gland, Switzerland | to Conserving the world's biological diversity.

20. **Gholvad Sapota** | GI certification of Gholvad Sapota is held by Maharashtra Rajya Chikoo Utpadak Sangh and the fruit is known for its sweet and unique taste | unique taste is derived from calcium-rich soil of Gholvad village | grown in many states: Karnataka, Gujarat, Maharashtra, Tamil Nadu, West Bengal and Andhra Pradesh. Karnataka is known to be the highest grower of the fruit, followed by Maharashtra.

GI (Geographical Indication) Tag → have a specific geographical origin and possess qualities or a reputation that are due to that origin | part of the intellectual property rights that comes under the Paris Convention for the Protection of Industrial Property | administered by the Geographical Indications of Goods (Registration and Protection) Act of 1999.