

14. Slender loris

Why in News?

The district forest officer (DFO) of Karur district has recently submitted a proposal for implementing a species recovery programme to protect and improve the population of the endangered slender loris.

About

- Slender loris (*Loris tardigradus*) is **secretive** and has **nocturnal habits**.
- It usually **travels from the canopy of one tree to another**.
- They generally **feed on** insects, reptiles, plant shoots, and fruit.
- The slender lorises (*Loris*) are a **genus of loris native to India and Sri Lanka**.
- Habitat → They are found in **tropical rainforests, scrub forests, semi-deciduous forests, and swamps**.
- Types → There are two species of Slender Loris, the only members of the genus 'Loris':
 - **Red Slender Loris** (*Loris tardigradus*)
 - **Grey Slender Loris** (*Loris lydekkerianus*).
- Protection Status →
 - IUCN: **Endangered**,
 - Wildlife (Protection) Act of India, 1972: **Schedule I**
 - CITES: **Appendix II**.
- It is believed that these animals have some medicinal properties, they are captured and sold.

Kadavur Reserve Forest

- The forest is located in **Karur district of Tamil Nadu** with a forest area of around 6000-hectare. The forest consists of **hills** and **dense dry areas**.
- **Indian Bison, Spotted Deer, mouse deer, slender loris, Jackal, Mongoose, black naped hare, wild boar, porcupine,** monitor lizard, Pangolin, Monkeys, pythons, etc are found in the forests.

15. New Ramsar wetland sites

Why in News?

Four more Indian sites have been recognised as wetlands of international importance under the Ramsar Convention taking the number of such sites in the country to 46.

About Bhindawas Wildlife Sanctuary

- Bhindawas Wildlife Sanctuary is the **largest wetland in Haryana**.
- It is a **human-made freshwater wetland**.
- Over **250 bird** species use the sanctuary throughout the year as a resting and roosting site.
- Globally threatened species found here are endangered **Egyptian Vulture, Steppe Eagle, Pallas's Fish Eagle, and Black-bellied Tern**.

Sultanpur National Park

- Sultanpur National Park supports **more than 220 species** of resident, winter migratory and local migratory water birds at critical stages of their life cycles.
 - Species found here are,
 - Critically endangered **sociable lapwing**, and
 - Endangered **Egyptian Vulture, Saker Falcon, Pallas's Fish Eagle** and **Black-bellied Tern**.

Thol Lake Wildlife Sanctuary