

Lion-Tailed Macaque

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About Lion-tailed Macaque

- It is an Old World monkey.
- It is an **arboreal and diurnal creature**, they sleep at night in trees (typically, high in the canopy of rainforest).
- These macaques are territorial and very **communicative animals**. One of the distinguishing features of this species is that males define the boundaries of their home ranges by calls.
- Overall, their communication system contains as many as 17 vocalisations.
- **Diet:** It is omnivorous and feed upon a wide variety of food, although fruits form the major part of their diet.
- **Appearance**
 - The magnificent Lion-tailed macaque is named due to its **lion-like, long, thin, and tufted tail**. Also they are characterised by the grey mane around their face.
 - In the meantime, this animal is one of the **smallest macaque species** in the world.
- **Distribution:** It is endemic to evergreen rainforests of the southern part in Western Ghats, with its range passing through the three states of **Karnataka, Kerala and Tamil Nadu**.
- **Conservation Status**
 - **IUCN:** Critically Endangered

- **CITES:** Appendix I
 - **The Wildlife (Protection) Act, 1972:** Schedule I
 - **Threats:** Its population faces threats from habitat loss, fragmentation, and human encroachment.
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Q1: Where is Western Ghats located?

It is a mountain range (in a stretch of 1,600 Km) parallel to the western coast of the Indian peninsula. It is a UNESCO World Heritage Site and is one of the 36 biodiversity hotspots in the world.

Source: TH

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