

Red-Crowned Roofed Turtle

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Red-crowned Roofed Turtle Latest News

The Red-crowned Roofed Turtle which was once a jewel of the Ganga is now inhabiting a shrinking sanctuary.

About Red-crowned Roofed Turtle

- It is a species of **freshwater turtle endemic to South Asia.**
- It is one of the **three large freshwater species** in the genus **Batagur found in India.**
- **Distribution**
 - It is native to **India, Bangladesh, and Nepal.**
 - Historically, the species was **widespread in the Ganga River**, both in India and Bangladesh.
 - It also occurs in the **Brahmaputra basin.**

Features of Red-Crowned Roofed Turtle

- In comparison to their female counterparts, the males are shorter and reach only half their length.

- They have a **reddish-orange colored head** with a black crown and a greenish-brown carapace (upper shell) with yellowish patterns.
- Their plastron (lower shell) is yellow with black markings.
- **Diet:** It is **omnivorous** and feeds on a variety of plants and animals.
- It functions as a **bio-indicator of river health**.
- It contributes to **the cycling of nutrients within the river**, which is essential for the overall health of the aquatic environment.

Conservation Status of Red-Crowned Roofed Turtle

- **IUCN:** Critically Endangered
- **CITES:** Appendix II
- **Wild Life (Protection) Act of 1972:** Schedule I

Source: DTE

Source: <https://vajiramandravi.com/current-affairs/red-crowned-roofed-turtle-batagur-kachuga/>

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