



ENVIS HUB PUDUCHERRY

PUDUCHERRY POLLUTION CONTROL COMMITTEE

Funded by Ministry of Environment, Forest & Climate Change
GoI, New Delhi



Olive Ridley Turtle (*Lepidochelys olivacea*)

Family: Cheloniidae

Distribution: Indian, Pacific, and Atlantic oceans.

Features: Second smallest sea turtle in the world. This turtle species is the mass nesting where thousands of females lay eggs on the beach together.

Size: They grow up to a length of 2 feet and weigh about 35–40 kgs.

Food: They are carnivorous and feed on jellyfish, smaller fishes, snails, crabs, etc.

Life Span: Maximum age 50 years

Conservation Status: Vulnerable

Green Turtle (*Chelonia mydas*)

Family: Cheloniidae

Distribution: Indian, Atlantic, and Pacific Oceans.

Features: It is referred to as Green turtle due to a green fat below its olive or black carapace. This turtle species migrate for long distances between the feeding places and nesting places.

Size: The adult sea turtle grows up to 1.5 mt. Long and weigh around 100 kgs.

Food: They are primarily herbivorous feeding on seagrasses.

Life Span: Maximum age 80 years

Conservation Status: Endangered



Hawksbill Turtle (*Eretmochelys imbricata*)

Family: Cheloniidae

Distribution: The Hawksbill Turtle is found along the coasts of the Pacific, Atlantic and Indian Oceans.

Features: These turtle species have a sharp point at their upper jaw, which helps them extract food from reefs. It has limbs like flippers.

Size: The adult Hawksbill turtle weighs around 80 kgs and up to 3ft in length. They are usually found in coral reefs.

Food: Their diet mainly consists of sea sponges

Life Span: Unknown

Conservation Status: Critically Endangered

Indian Roofed Turtle (*Pangshura tecta*)

Family: Geoemydidae

Distribution: Major rivers of South Asia.

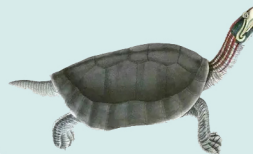
Features: This turtle gets its name due to a distinct roof on the uppermost part of its shell. It has an elevated carapace with a black head and orange jaws and sides. Indian Roofed Turtle mostly found in quiet waters like streams and ponds. It is a common pet in India.

Size: The adult turtle can grow up to 9 inches.

Food: This turtle species is omnivorous and feeds on aquatic vegetation.

Life Span: Unknown

Conservation Status: Least Concern



Red-Crowned Roofed Turtle (*Batagur kachuga*)

Family: Geoemydidae

Distribution: South Asia.

Features: Males are only half the size. These turtle species like to bask in the sun. It has been harvested for meat and shells and along with loss of habitat has resulted in this turtle species becoming endangered.

Size: The adult females grow up to 22 inches and weigh around 25 kgs.

Food: This turtle species is omnivorous and feeds on aquatic vegetation.

Life Span: Unknown

Conservation Status: Critically endangered

Indian Tent Turtle (*Pangshura tecta*)

Family: Geoemydidae

Distribution: India and Bangladesh.

Features: They are mostly found in freshwater rivers and swamps. Indian tent turtle has 3 subspecies present. They come under the types of turtles in India. They love basking in the sun on land and rocks, with their heads turned upwards.

Size: It is a small species which grows only up to a maximum of 11 inches.

Food: This turtle species is omnivorous and feeds on aquatic vegetation.

Life Span: Unknown

Conservation Status: Least Concern



Leatherback Turtle (*Dermochelys coriacea*)

Family: Dermochelyidae

Distribution: Pacific, Indian and Atlantic Oceans.

Features: This Turtle species is the largest among all types of turtles. Unlike most other turtles, its outer shell (carapace) is covered with skin and oily flesh and is not bony.

Size: The size of an adult Leatherback turtle is around 380 kgs and 1.55m.

Food: This turtle species feeds on jellyfish.

Life Span: 50 years or more

Conservation Status: Endangered



Loggerhead Turtle (*Caretta caretta*)

Family: Cheloniidae

Distribution: Indian Ocean, Atlantic and Pacific.

Features: The upper neck and sides are brown on top yellow on the sides and bottom. The carapace is divided into large plates. These type of turtles are the world's largest hard-shelled turtles. They live in the oceans and shallow coastal waters.

Size: An adult loggerhead measures about 35 inches and weighs about 135 kgs.

Food: The Loggerhead turtle species are omnivorous and feed on small sea animals.

Life Span: Around 47 – 67 years

Conservation Status: Vulnerable

Indian Softshell Turtle (*Nilssonia gangetica*)

Family: Trionychidae

Distribution: South Asia, mainly in the rivers of Ganges, Indus, and Mahanadi.

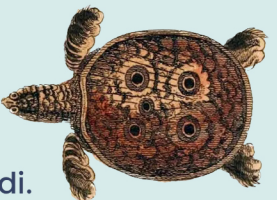
Features: The Indian Softshell turtle is also known as the Ganges softshell turtle. The carapace has eight pairs of costal plates on it with indistinct dark eyespots. This turtle species is considered sacred and maintained in the temples of Orissa.

Size: They grow up to a length of 2 feet and weigh about 35–40 kgs.

Food: This turtle species is omnivorous and feeds on fishes, animal matter and aquatic plants.

Life Span: 50 years or more

Conservation Status: Vulnerable



Indian Flap shell Turtle (*Lissemys punctata*)

Family: Trionychidae

Distribution: Pakistan, India, Sri Lanka, Nepal, Bangladesh and Myanmar

Features: It is named as Flapshell as it has flaps of skin which cover the limbs when they retract into the shell. The Indian Flapshell turtle is adapted to survive drought conditions. It is used to reduce the pollution in certain aquatic water bodies as they feed on snails, insects and dead water animals.

Size: The adult grows up to 14 inches.

Food: This turtle species is omnivorous and feeds on frogs, fishes, plant leaves, flowers & fruits.

Life Span: Unknown

Conservation Status: Least Concern



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