

## Popa Langur

### Why in News?

Recently, the scientists have discovered new monkey species Popa Langur, is on the verge of extinction.

- **Popa Langur** - It is a newly-discovered species, occurs in **central Myanmar** which is named after the sacred Mount Popa.
- **Discovered in** - 2020.
- **Taxonomy**
  - **Scientific Name** - Trachypithecus popa.
  - **Genus** - Trachypithecus of Old-World primates.
- It was often referred as **Leaf-Monkeys**.
- **Habitat** - Found in the evergreen and deciduous forests, bamboo forests and plantations.
- **Distribution** - High evergreen forests of Myanmar.

*The largest populations of Popa Langur live in Popa Mountain Park and Panlaung-Pyadalin Cave Wildlife Sanctuary, Myanmar.*

- **Morphology** - It has soft fluffy gray fur, pointed cap of fur on their head, like most langurs, small heads and large eyes made bigger in appearance by thick white eye rings.
- It has small, elongated nostrils and a wide mouth covered in white fur, chest and belly are pale gray-white in color.



- **Behavior** - It is an **arboreal** (spending most of their time in trees) and **diurnal** (active during the day).
- It is capable of traveling long distances and has home ranges large as 256 acres.
- It is vocal primates and range calls to communicate with each other.

- **Diet** - It is a *folivores (leaf eaters)*, which feed on leaves, fruits, green shoots and petioles.
- Researchers recently estimated that only 200 to 260 individuals remain now.
- **Threats** - Hunting for meat
  - Illegal pet trade
  - Agricultural encroachment
  - Water and soil pollution
  - Cattle ranching.
- **Conservation Status**
  - **IUCN** - Critically Endangered.
  - **CITES** - Appendix II.

## References

1. [AZ Animals| Popa Langur Verge of Extinction](#)
2. [NEPC| Popa Langur](#)

