

**TAMIL NADU NOTIFIES INDIA'S FIRST SLENDER LORIS
SANCTUARY**

Department of Environment, Climate Change and Forest, Government of Tamil Nadu on 12.10.2022, Wednesday notified 11,806 hectare in Karur and Dindigul Districts as India's first Slender Loris Sanctuary after obtaining the approval of Hon'ble Chief Minister of Tamilnadu Thiru. M.K. Stalin.

Slender Loris are small nocturnal mammals. They are arboreal in nature, as they spend most of their life on trees. The species acts as a biological predator to pests of agricultural crops and benefits farmers. The species has wide range of ecological role and importance to play in the terrestrial ecosystem. The species is listed as an endangered species as per the International Union for the Conservation of Nature (IUCN). The survival of the species depends on it's habitat improvement, conservation efforts and mitigation of threats.

Government of Tamil Nadu is committed to conserve the endangered Slender Loris species. Towards this, forest areas measuring 11,806 ha, in Karur and Dindigul Districts, are identified as important habitats for Slender Loris in Tamil Nadu. Realizing the need for immediate conservation of this species, Government of Tamil Nadu had made an announcement on the floor of the Assembly that *"India's first ever Wildlife Sanctuary for Slender Loris shall be set up in Karur and Dindigul in Tamil Nadu"*.

Accordingly, the Government of Tamil Nadu today notified the "Kadavur Slener Loris Sanctuary" as India's first Slender Loris

Sanctuary with 11806 hectares of land (in 7 Blocks) in Karur and Dindigul Districts under Section 26 (A) (1) (b) of Wildlife (Protection) Act, 1972.

Government of Tamil Nadu has also taken several pioneering efforts for the conservation of Wildlife especially endangered Species. Following are some of the initiatives taken by the Government under the leadership of Hon'ble Chief Minister.

- Notification of India's first Dugong Conservation Reserve in Palk Bay
- Notification of Kazhuveli Birds Sanctuary in Villupuram
- Notification of Agasthiarmalai Elephants Reserve
- Notification of Nanjarayan Tank Birds Sanctuary, Tirupur
- Thirteen Wetlands included in the Ramsar Sites

These path breaking initiatives in the short span of 15 months have put Tamil Nadu at a pivotal position in the field of Conservation.

**Additional Chief Secretary to Government,
Environment, Climate Change and Forests Department**

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