

## **Species in News – Rhesus Macaque:**

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The wildlife panel recommended reinstating the Rhesus Macaque in Schedule 2 of Wildlife Protection Act

**About Rhesus macaque:** 

The rhesus macaque (Macaca mulatta), also known as the rhesus monkey, is an Old World monkey species.

Distribution & Habitat: Widely distributed across India, Pakistan, Nepal, Bangladesh, and Southeast Asia.

**Behaviour & Diet:** 

oOmnivorous: feeds on fruits, seeds, leaves, insects, and human food scraps.

oHighly intelligent, exhibits tool use, problem-solving, and social learning.

oKnown for conflicts with humans in urban and temple areas due to scavenging.

**IUCN Status:** Least Concern

Threats include habitat loss, urbanization, human-wildlife conflict, and capture for research/entertainment.

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