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## **RED PANDA CONSERVATION**

**PARUL GUPTA\*, NUSRAT KHAN AND A. K. DAS**

*Division of Animal Genetics & Breeding, Faculty of Vety. Sci. & A.H,  
Shere-Kashmir University of Agricultural Sciences and Technology, R.S. Pura, Jammu, 181102*

*\*Corresponding author: drparulgupta24@gmail.com*

**ABSTRACT:** Most of the Red pandas of the world occur in China, whereas the majority of the Indian population occurs in Arunachal Pradesh. In 2001, the wild population in India was estimated to be 5,000 to 6,000 individuals. The Red panda has been classified as vulnerable by IUCN because of its less population and it continues to decline mainly due to habitat loss and fragmentation, poaching, and inbreeding depression. The major threats confronting red pandas are loss and fragmentation of habitat due to deforestation for timber, fuel and agricultural land poaching for the pet and fur trades and competition from domestic livestock. The relative importance of these different factors varies between different regions in the red panda's range and is not well understood. Due to these threats, there is a need to conserve the red pandas.

**Key words:** *Conservation, National park, Red pandas*