

are almost 75% lower in their abundance index today than before 2000, indicating a steep long-term decline. This is worrying, because such declines are shown even among many common species like crimson-backed sunbird and yellow-browed bulbul," the report pointed out.

Species such as Malabar grey hornbill, Malabar barbet, Malabar parakeet, Malabar woodshrike, white-bellied treepie, Nilgiri flowerpecker, white-bellied blue flycatcher and others have witnessed a decline.

Referring to species of 'Sky Island' (shola forests) - the unique ecosystem in high altitudes of central and southern Western Ghats - the report said, "The Sky Island ecosystem faces a number of threats, placing many of the species at risk."



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