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- Cover** The coconut crab *Birgus latro* is the largest land crab. It occurs on oceanic atolls and islands in the Indo-Pacific, growing to 35 cm in length and 5 kg, and is threatened with extinction across most of its range. In India it is found only on a few islands in the Andaman and Nicobar archipelagoes. The 2004 tsunami may have caused the species to go extinct on at least two of the Nicobar Islands and on others social taboos against hunting the crab for consumption are breaking down. Although the coconut crab is legally protected under the Indian Wildlife Protection Act the villagers do not appear to be aware of this. For further details see pp. 175–178. (Photograph © Pete Oxford/Naturepl.com).