

SOME ENDEMIC SPECIES OF WESTERN GHATS

Leptocoma minima (Crimson backed Sunbird)

Habitat	Western Ghats.
Body Length	8 cm.
Food	Nectar. Young ones are fed with insect
Nesting Season	December to March
General features	Endemic to the western ghats. Found in forest, sometimes nearby gardens having suitable flowering plants.



Martes quatrinsii (Nilgiri Marten)



Habitat	Parts of Kodagu and Travancore
Body Length	55-65 cm
Tail length	40-45cm
Weight	2.1kg
Food	Birds, small mammals and insects
General features	It has a bright orange throat and is mostly arboreal creature that descends to the ground occasionally.

Macaca silenus (Lion tailed macaque or Wanderoo)

Habitat	Western Ghats. Diurnal rainforest dweller. Lives in hierarchical groups of 10-20 animals.
Weight	2 – 10 kg.
Body length	42-61cm
Defence	By loud aries forwards the invading troops.
Food	Fruits, leaves, buds, flowers.
General features	Distinct appearance of silver mane.
Threat	Endangered



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Ocyceres griseus (Grey Horn Bill)



Habitat	Dense forest of Western Ghats, Arecanut or Coffee plantation.
Body length	45 – 45-58 cm.
Tail length	23cm.
Breeding season	January to May
Food	figs and forest fruits
General features	Unlike other Horn bills, this is without Casque. Males have reddish bill with yellow lip while females have plain yellow bill

Vijajachelys silvatica (Cochin Cane Turtle)

Habitat	Dense evergreen forest of Western Ghats.
Carapace size	120 mm(83mm breadth,54mm height)
Food	Omnivores but prefer vegetables.
General features	Also known as kavalai forest turtle. Head has truncated snout. Females are larger than the males.
Threat	Endangered



Calotes calotes (Common Green Forest Lizard)



Habitat	Western Ghats and Shevaroy hills (India and Srilanka).
Body length	50 – 65cm (including tail).
Food	Insects, buds and flowers.
General features	Gular pouch not developed. Dorsal surface trunk and tail is bright green colored with white transverse stripes. The tail is very long and slender.