



COMMON LAND ANIMALS OF KANYAKUMARI DISTRICT

COMMON LAND ANIMALS OF KANYAKUMARI DISTRICT



No.7/335, Shop No.1,2 &3, Seven Eleven Complex,
Keelavannan Vilai, Vallankumaran Villai,
N.G.O. Colony Road, Kottar Post, Nagercoil,
Kanyakumari District. PIN: 629002
Contact:04652-259193, 91-6380002616.
Email : fristtrustorg@gmail.com;
Website : <http://fristtrustindia.org>

Prepared by;
A.M. Sibiya M.Sc, Research
Fellow
C. Santhini M.Sc, B.Ed., M.Phil

COMMON LAND ANIMALS OF KANYAKUMARI DISTRICT

1. ELEPHANT

Common name: Elephant

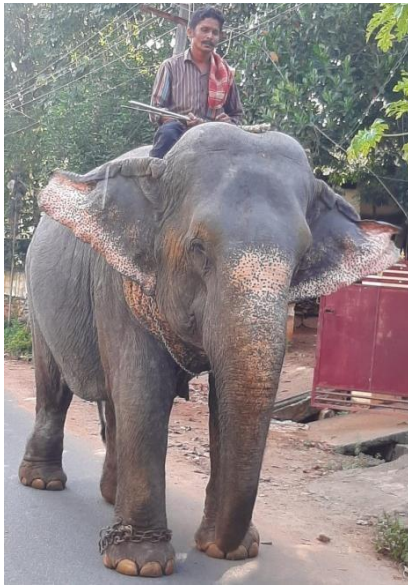
Phylum: Chordata

Class: Mammalia

Order: Proboscidea

Scientific name: *Loxodonta africana*

Tamil Name: யானை



- ❖ Largest living land mammal on earth.
- ❖ Grayish to brown coloured.
- ❖ They have a long trunk, columnar leg, huge head and flat ears.
- ❖ Seen commonly in grass lands, forests.
- ❖ They live in group.
- ❖ They are domesticated for transportation and for lifting heavy objects.
- ❖ They are now under a threat to extinction.
- ❖ Weight – 11,900 pounds
- ❖ Height – 8 to 10 feet
- ❖ Mating – wet season
- ❖ Gestation period – 18 to 22 months
- ❖ Life span – 80 years

2. MONKEY

Common name: Monkey

Phylum: Chordata

Class: Mammalia

Order: Primates

Scientific name: Macaca sinica

Tamil Name: குரங்கு



- ❖ It is an arboreal primate (A group with all related species of mammal)
- ❖ They have a forward facing eyes
- ❖ They lives in trees, grasslands, mountain, forest and high plains
- ❖ Communicates by vocalization, facial expression and body movements
- ❖ Eats fruits, seeds, nuts, insects, leaves, flowers, birds egg and small mammals
- ❖ They live in groups
- ❖ Weight – 77 pound
- ❖ Height – 3.3 feet
- ❖ Gestation period – 4 to 8 month
- ❖ Life span – 50 years

3. COW

Common name: Cow

Phylum: Chordata

Class : Mammalia

Order: Artiodactyla

Scientific name: Bos Taurus

Tamil Name: மாடு



- ❖ They are stocky animal with a long rectangular body
- ❖ They are commonly domesticated animal all around the world
- ❖ They have a small head, long straight snout and a short neck
- ❖ They are raised for milk, beef and other dairy products
- ❖ They may be of different colour including brown, white and black
- ❖ Commonly seen where ever humans live
- ❖ They eat paddy straw, plants and grasses
- ❖ Weight – 800 to 2400 pounds
- ❖ Height – 3 to 4 feet
- ❖ Gestation period – 9 month
- ❖ Life span – 25 years

4. GOAT

Common name: Goat

Phylum: Chordata

Class: Mammalia

Order: Artiodactyla

Scientific name: *Capra aegagrus hircus*

Tamil Name: வெள்ளாடு



- ❖ Small hollow horned mammal with a short tail and straight hair
- ❖ They are largest milk producer and the milk is used for making cheese
- ❖ They are reared for meat, milk, fur and skin
- ❖ They browse on leaves, plants, shrubs and vegetables
- ❖ They live in grass lands near human locations
- ❖ Weight – 120 pounds
- ❖ Height – 1 to 2 feet
- ❖ Gestation period – 5 months
- ❖ Life span – 15 to 18 years

5. CAT

Common name: cat

Phylum: Chordata

Class: Mammalia

Order: Carnivora

Scientific name: Felis catus

Tamil Name: புலி



- ❖ It is an carnivore mammal
- ❖ They have a long lean body with extra lumbar and thoracic region with flexible spinal mobility
- ❖ They are used to catch rat in olden days by which they are domesticated
- ❖ They hunt and eat birds, flies and insects
- ❖ Weight – 9 pounds
- ❖ Height – 25 cm
- ❖ Gestation period – 2 month
- ❖ Life span – 16 years

6. DOG

Common name: Dog

Phylum: Chordata

Class: Mammalia

Order: Carnivora

Scientific name: *Canis lupus familiaris*

Tamil Name: நாய்



- ❖ Domesticated mammal a breed from wolves
- ❖ It is the first animal to be domesticated
- ❖ They help human to do their works
- ❖ They have good smelling and hearing than human
- ❖ Act as a social animal due to their trainability, playfulness, ability to fit into human household and social situation
- ❖ Weight – 60 pounds
- ❖ Height – 3 to 4 feet
- ❖ Gestation period – 2 month
- ❖ Life span – 13 years

7. MICE

Common name: Mice

Phylum: Chordata

Class: Mammalia

Order: Rodentia

Scientific name: *Mus musculus*

Tamil Name: சூண் வெலி



- ❖ Small rodent with a pointed nose, furry around body, large ears and a long tail
- ❖ They may be of white, grey and brown coloured
- ❖ Lives in forest, grasslands and manmade structures
- ❖ Nocturnal and forages at night
- ❖ Eat fruits, nuts, seeds and grains
- ❖ Can feel temperature changes and alterations of ground by their whiskers
- ❖ Good jumpers and can jump up to 18 inches, can swim and can climb
- ❖ Weight – 45 gram
- ❖ Length – 10 cm
- ❖ Gestation period – 20 days
- ❖ Life span - 5 to 7 years

8. LIZARD

Common name: Lizard

Phylum: Chordata

Class: Reptilia

Order: Scaled reptiles

Scientific name: Lacertilia

Tamil Name: டால் லி



- ❖ Have a moderate sized body with concave fore head and a long snout
- ❖ Have a triangular head, small round ear opening, large eyes without eyelids and a tail covered with scales
- ❖ Colour varies from pale yellow to grayish white
- ❖ Seen in wall, ceilings of home, trees, bushes, forest and dry lands
- ❖ Nocturnal and actives at night
- ❖ Can smell the environment by licking the air
- ❖ Eats small insects and spiders
- ❖ Weight – 19gram
- ❖ Length – 150 mm
- ❖ Gestation period – 3 month
- ❖ Life span – 5 years

9. RABBIT

Common name: Rabbit

Phylum: Chordata

Class: Mammalia

Order: Lagomorpha

Scientific name: *Oryctolagus cuniculus*

Tamil Name: முயல்



- ❖ Small furry mammal with long ears and short fluffy tail
- ❖ By their powerful hind limb they move by hopping
- ❖ Reared for meat and fur
- ❖ Use their ears as thermo regulators to avoid from predators
- ❖ Lives in meadow, wood, forest, grasslands and deserts
- ❖ Have a ovoid body with small neck and head
- ❖ Specialized eyes on two sides enables to see at 360 degree
- ❖ Eats grass, carrot, and leafy weeds
- ❖ Weight – 11 pounds

- ❖ Length – 2 feet
- ❖ Gestation period – 1 month
- ❖ Life span – 10 to 13 years

10. CHAMELEON

Common name: Chameleon

Phylum: Chordata

Class: Reptilia

Order: Squamata

Scientific name: *Chamaeleo Zeylanicus*

Tamil Name: பஈஃ



- ❖ A famous colour changing animal
- ❖ Change the skin pigmentation as a mode of communication
- ❖ Have crests on their back of skull and a long sticky tongue
- ❖ Have a specialized stereoscopic eyes to view multiple objects at once
- ❖ Seen in tropic rain forest, mountains, desert and trees
- ❖ Eat insects, caterpillar, ant and snails
- ❖ Use their sticky tongue to catch their prey
- ❖ Weight – 3 pounds
- ❖ Length – 2.2 feet
- ❖ Gestation period – 5 to 6 month
- ❖ Life span – 7 to 8 years

11. HORSE

Common name: Horse

Phylum: Chordata

Class: Mammalia

Order: Perissodactyla

Scientific name: Equus caballus

Tamil Name: குதிரை



- ❖ Hoofed herbivore mammal
- ❖ Have a long thick neck, elongated head, short hair and a long tail
- ❖ Live in groups
- ❖ Eat leaves, grass and paddy hay
- ❖ Human use horse for agriculture activity, entertainment, police work and riding
- ❖ It provides meat, hide, hair and bone to human
- ❖ Weight – 837 to 220 pounds
- ❖ Height – 7 feet
- ❖ Gestation period – 11 month
- ❖ Life span – 25 to 30 years

12. SNAKE

Common name: Snake

Phylum: Chordata

Class: Reptilia

Order: Squamata

Scientific name: Serpentes

Tamil Name: பூம்பூ



- ❖ Elongated legless reptiles covered with overlapping scales
- ❖ It molts its skin periodically
- ❖ Seen in forest, desert, swamps and grasslands
- ❖ Poisonous snakes produce venom to kill their prey
- ❖ Eats lizard, frog, small mammals, bird's egg etc...
- ❖ Locomotion is by lateral undulation, side winding and rectilinear
- ❖ Poisonous snakes
 - ➔ Elapids (Cobras)
 - ➔ Viperids (Vipers)
 - ➔ Colubrids (Vine snakes)
- ❖ Weight – 200 pound (Burmese python)
- ❖ Length – 23 feet(Burmese python)
- ❖ Gestation period – 45 days
- ❖ Life span – 25 years

13. SQUIRREL

Common name: Squirrel

Phylum: Chordata

Class: Mammalia

Order: Rodentia

Scientific name: Sciuridae

Tamil Name: அணில்



- ❖ Small to medium sized rodents
- ❖ Slender animal with thick fur and a bushy tail
- ❖ Grey to reddish brown coloured above and light coloured below
- ❖ Live in trees, forest and mountains
- ❖ Have a longer hind limb with a soft pad underside
- ❖ Have excellent sense of vision
- ❖ Eats nuts, seeds and fruits
- ❖ Weight – 4 pound
- ❖ Length – 5 to 36 inches
- ❖ Gestation period – 42 days
- ❖ Life span – 6 years

14. DEER

Common name: Deer

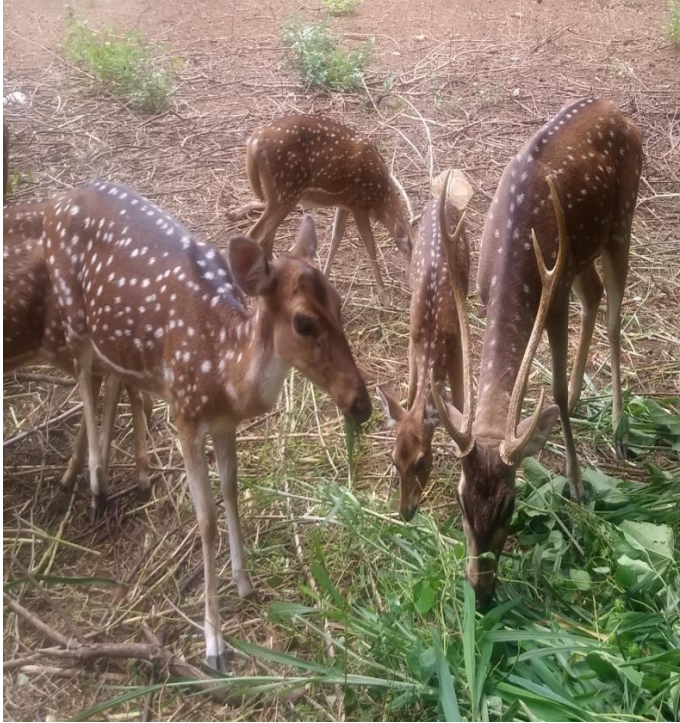
Phylum: Chordata

Class: Mammalia

Order: Artiodactyla

Scientific name: Cervidae

Tamil Name: மரபை



- ❖ Cloven hoofed ungulates with long slender leg and a small tail
- ❖ Males have antlers while females lack it
- ❖ They can jump and swim well
- ❖ Light brown to dark brown coloured and some are with spots
- ❖ Seen in parks, garden, forest, wet land and grass lands
- ❖ Lives in groups
- ❖ Eats grass, shrub and laves
- ❖ Weight – 88 to 440 pounds
- ❖ Height – 5 to 6 feet
- ❖ Gestation period – 7 month
- ❖ Life span – 20 years

15. PIG

Common name: Pig

Phylum: Chordata

Class: Mammalia

Order: Artiodactyla

Scientific name: Sus

Tamil Name: பைரி



- ❖ They are stocky bodied mammal with a flat snout, small eyes and large ears
- ❖ Lives in grasslands, forest and wet lands
- ❖ They do mud bath (makes them look ugly) to keep them cool
- ❖ Very intelligent with play behavior
- ❖ Eats roots, fruits, rodents, reptiles and can eat anything
- ❖ Skin is used for preclinical studies and drug testing by humans
- ❖ Xenotransplantation (transplantation of cells, tissues and organ from pig to human) was done with human
- ❖ Weight – 330 pounds
- ❖ Length – 6 feet
- ❖ Gestation period – 4 month
- ❖ Life span – 15 to 20 years

16. DONKEY

Common name: Donkey

Phylum: Chordata

Class: Mammalia

Order: Perissodactyla

Scientific name: Equus asinus

Tamil Name: கழுதை



- ❖ Domesticated farm animal with hooves and a long floppy ears
- ❖ Used for pulling carts and carrying heavy loads
- ❖ It uses the ear for picking distance sound and for cooling its blood
- ❖ Eats grasses and plants
- ❖ They are capable of independent thinking and decision making
- ❖ They enjoy rolling on ground
- ❖ Lives in group on dry warm areas
- ❖ They are stronger than horses
- ❖ Weight – 551 pounds
- ❖ Height – 6 feet
- ❖ Gestation period – 12 month
- ❖ Life span – 25 to 30 years

17. PALM CIVET

Common name: Palm civet

Phylum: Chordata

Class: Mammalia

Order : Carnivora

Scientific name: *Paradoxurus hermaphroditus*

Tamil Name: மரநாய்



- ❖ A tree dweller toddy cat (nocturnal)
- ❖ They are covered by dark grey to black fur
- ❖ Have a elongated body with big eyes, long pointed muzzle, small ears and a long tail
- ❖ Seen in rain forest, jungle, park and garden where plenty of fruits are present
- ❖ Eats fruits, flower sap, insects, rodents and birds egg
- ❖ Lives a solitary life (except mating season)
- ❖ Weight – 8 to 10 pounds
- ❖ Length – 21 inches
- ❖ Gestation period – 2 month
- ❖ Life span – 20 to 22 years

18. BUFFALO

Common name: Buffalo

Phylum: Chordata

Class: Mammalia

Order: Artiodactyla

Scientific name: Bubalus bubalis

Tamil Name: எருது



- ❖ Large animal with a big head, broad chest and strong legs
- ❖ Body is covered by brownish to black hairs
- ❖ Males have longer and thicker horns
- ❖ Eats grass and shrubs
- ❖ Lives in groups on wood lands, forest and lowland rain forest
- ❖ Have very poor eye sight and poor sense of hearing but have a excellent sense of smell
- ❖ Humans use for getting milk, meat, horn and skin
- ❖ It was also used for transportation and to pull plows
- ❖ Weight – 700 to 1200 kg
- ❖ Height – 9 feet
- ❖ Gestation period – 11 month
- ❖ Life span – 20 to 25 years