

individuals appearing in each catch except for those in mid September and first week of October when the numbers increased to four and five individuals per catch, respectively.

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BRAIN INJURY IN A COMMON LANGUR *SEMNOPITHECUS ENTELLUS*

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A Common Langur (*Semnopithecus entellus*) was presented in the Surgery Department of Orissa Veterinary College by Peoples for animal (PFA), a non-government organization working for animal welfare. PFA workers rescued the monkey in a semiconscious state from the Khandagiri caves area near Bhubaneswar city. The animal was aggressive and was restrained using a snare.

After general inspection, the animal was sedated within five minutes of the intramuscular administration of a mixture of 0.60mg of atropine sulphate and 100mg of ketamine hydrochloride. On physical examination, a blood stained area was detected in the frontal sinus area just above the right eye. On exploration of the site, it was found that one end of an iron nail tightly embedded in the skull was detected. The nail was removed with the help of pliers. The retrieved iron nail was broken at its base (Image 1^w). Five hundred ml of dextrose normal saline was administered along with 8mg of dexamethasone (Dexona: M/S Cadila Health Care Ltd., Ahmedabad) and 500mg of cefotaxime sodium (Taxim: M/S Alkem Lab. Ltd., Mumbai) intravenously. In spite of all possible efforts, the animal died after three hours of operation. Post-mortem examination showed extensive subdural hematoma covering the entire right hemisphere. Protruded brain tissue could be marked in the path of the penetrating wound caused by the nail. The death of the langur was attributed to intracranial haematoma and by the damage to the brain tissues by the broken iron nail. A similar pattern of death was recorded by Indrieri and Simpson (1985) in a dog.

Khandagiri is a historic place with ancient rock-cut caves where several monkeys reside. Sometimes the monkeys visit nearby localities in search of food and cause damage to the fruit bearing trees and houses. House owners normally fix inverted nails on the compound wall to prevent trespassers, which in this case had affected the langur.

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^w See Image in the web supplement at www.zoosprint.org

