



Sri Lanka Tests IUDs Contraceptives on Monkeys

[Source: TH](#)

Sri Lanka is testing **Intrauterine Devices (IUDs)** on **female toque macaques** to control their population, estimated at around 3 million.

- An **Intrauterine Device (IUDs)** is a small **contraceptive device** that is put into the **uterus (womb) to prevent pregnancy**.
 - **IUDs Types:** The **copper IUD** and the **hormonal IUD**, sold under the brand names **Mirena** and **Kyleena**.
- This action follows the government's earlier decision to **provide shotguns** to **farmers** to address crop damage and to abandon a contentious plan to **export monkeys to China**.
- Experts doubt that contraception alone will effectively reduce monkey populations, emphasising that controlling monkey populations also requires **banning the feeding of wild monkeys**, as access to human food boosts their survival and reproduction.
- **Toque Macaque (Macaca sinica)** is a **reddish-brown-coloured** Old World monkey **endemic to Sri Lanka**.
 - **IUCN Status:** Endangered
 - They are mostly **frugivorous (fruit eating)**, **diurnal** animals (active in daytime).



TOQUE MACAQUE

Macaca sinica

CONSERVATION STATUS: ENDANGERED

- Named for the whorl of hair on top of their heads
- Endemic to Sri Lanka
- They form large troops with complex social hierarchies
- Commonly seen in Sri Lanka's Cultural Triangle of temples and nicknamed *temple monkeys*
- Threatened by habitat loss and human-wildlife conflicts



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