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21 December 2023

Sighting of tail bifurcation in Common House Gecko from Sathyamangalam, Erode District, Tamil Nadu

Hemidactylus frenatus is the most abundant gecko in Bangladesh where it is widely distributed in diverse habitats, including forests and human settlements in both rural and urban areas (Khandakar et al. 2020).

On 17 February 2022, the Common House Gecko were observed from the first author house near Sathyamangalam in the rural area. The location of the observation is 11.5224 N & 77.2454 E. The gecko was observed on the wall about 5 m above the ground. On closer observation, we noticed that this gecko had a bifurcated tail. During this unusual observation, it seems the tail was not shed properly and the new tail was regenerated with a partially shed tail. This note is the third report of tail



Tail bifurcation in a Common House Gecko. © M. Kishore.

bifurcation in *H. frenatus*.

The previous reports of tail bifurcation or two tail are recorded in many places among species belonging to the genus *Hemidactylus*. Previously, two-tailed geckoes from India—Northern House Gecko *Hemidactylus flaviviridis* in Maharashtra (Kumbar et al. 2011), Northern House Gecko *Hemidactylus flaviviridis* in Gujarat (Vyas & Upadhyay

2020), Bombay Leaf-Toad Gecko *Hemidactylus prashadi* in Maharashtra (Yankanchi & Kumbar 2016), Tokey Gecko *Gekko gekko* from Kaziranga, Assam (Gogoi et al. 2018), and Common House Gecko *Hemidactylus frenatus* in Tamil Nadu (Vishnu & Ramesh 2021)—were reported. And outside India two tails have been reported in Gallagher's Leaf-toed Gecko *Asaccus gallagheri* in United Arab



Emirates (Koleska 2018), Yellow-bellied House Gecko *Hemidactylus flaviviridis* in Chitwan from Nepal (Bhattarai et al. 2020), and Common House Gecko *Hemidactylus frenatus* in Bangladesh (Khandakar & Sultana 2020).

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Citation: Kishore, M. & T. Siva (2023). Sighting of tail bifurcation in Common House Gecko from Sathyamangalam, Erode District, Tamil Nadu. *Reptile Rap* #243, In: *Zoo's Print* 38(12): 09–10.