

Diversity of Snake Species from Pusad Region, Maharashtra, India

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ABSTRACT

The study of venomous, semi venomous and Non venomous snakes species by different habitat from the Pusad region (Vidarbha), and common species found like Common kukri, Common Wolf snake, Green keelback, Russell's viper, Worm snake, Bamboo pit viper, Common trinket, Indian rat snake, total seventeen species observed survey conduct day time and night time, from study period during July 2016 to August 2017. The study is essential for the enrichment of the individual species survival and will helps to provide information, awareness and conservation of snake species from Pusad Tahasil of Maharashtra state, India

Keywords : Snakes, Pusad Region, Common Kukri, Common Wolf Snake, Green Keelback, Russell's Viper, Worm Snake, Bamboo Pit Viper

I. INTRODUCTION

Every year, about 5.4 million snakebites occur worldwide. These cause up to 2.7 million envenoming's, almost 138,000 deaths, and 400,000 cases of squeal or disability Various [1,2] Every year, two million snakebites occur in Asia, with India presenting more than 46,000 deaths each year [1,3]. kinds of snakes are existing all over the world by various habitat. It is postulated that there are about 3000 species of terrestrial snakes in the world and they are predominant in the warm climates and lush-green regions of the tropics. About 278 species are found in India out of which 58 species are poisonous [1]. 3000 species of snakes are distributed worldwide. 500 are venomous species 52 venomous species are found in Indian subcontinent [2]. Snake bite is an acute life threatening time limiting medical emergency an occupational hazard often faced by farm laborers and

farmers. It is in endemic form all over tropical countries like India. In India there are 2.5 lakhs snake bites out of which 35,000 to 50,000 deaths per year due to snake bite. There are 216 species of snakes identified in India which 52 are known to be poisonous. The dominant families of poisonous snakes in India are Elapidae which is includes common cobra (*Naja naja*), King cobra and common krait (*Bungarus caeruleus*), viperidae includes *Russell's viper echiscarinatus* (saw scaled or carpet viper) and pit viper and hydrophidae (Sea snakes) [4]. The present study is essential for conservation of snakes species.

II. METHODS AND MATERIAL

For the study initially requires well-trained snake rescuers on his own risk for the observation, it needs courage, self-daring, confidence, and very essential

experience and most important is the study of behavior and nature of the snake to be caught. Snake rescue records of survey was made from July 2016 to August 2017, Sampling was done as per the need, request of the local people or stress calls made by residents, for twenty four hrs. Individual species of snakes were located and try to catch by hand, sticks and through pitfall traps in association with drift fences. After catching the snakes, their characteristics, predominant features were observed then noted for taxonomical study, take the photographs and identified up to species level using keys and other publications as per [5], [6], [7], [8]. After the study the captured snakes species were released in the forest/safely area as per the guidelines of wildlife and forest department rescued

and released into the proper habitat without harm them.

III. RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

Total sixteen Species sixteen genus of snakes belong to five families were recorded in and around the human habitations of resident people of Pusad Tehsil , it is indicated in the table no I. Out of these rescued species four species were poisonous, two were semi-venomous and remaining ten was non- venomous. The unavailability of suitable habitat and prey base, snakes have to move outside which leading to such conflicts that sometimes leads to death of a snake. However, some citizen ecofriendly or some stressfully call to expert snake catcher for stressfully call to expert snake catcher for the escape and survival of the species.

Sr. No.	Family	Genus	Species	Common name	Local Name	Nature	Status
1	Elapidae	Naja	naja	Spectacled cobra	Naag	***	C
		Bungarus	caeruleus	Common krait		***	C
2	Viperidae	Daboia	russelii	Russell's viper	Ghonus	***	C
		Echis	carinatus	Indian saw-scaled viper	Furase	***	C
3	Colubridae	Boiga	trigonata	Common cat snake	Manjarya	**	C
		Ahaetulla	nasuta	Common vine snake	Harantol	**	C
		Ptyas	mucosa	Indian rat snake	Dhaman	*	C
		Coelognathus	helena	Common trinket snake	Taskar	*	C
		Macropisthodon	plumbicolor	Grass snake	-	*	U
		Amphiesma	stolatum	Striped keelback	Iral/Pandhivad	*	R
		Lycodon	aulicus	Common wolf snake	Kawadya	*	C
		<i>Xenochrophis</i>	<i>piscator</i>	Checkered keelback water snake		*	C
4	Boidae	Eryx	johnii	Earth boa/Red sand boa	Mandul	*	C
		Gongylophis	conicus	Common Sand boa		*	C
		Python	morulus	Indian rock python	Ajgar	*	R
5	Typhlopidae	Ramphotyphlops	braminus	Brahminy worm snake		*	U

Table No.I: Diversity of Snakes from Pusad Tehsil, (MS), India (Note 1: C- common, U-uncommon, R-rare.) (Note 2: Non-venomous=*, Semi-venomous=,Venomous=***)**

Among the non- venomous snakes the rare species reported here as Indian rock python, *Python morulus* and Striped keel back, *Amphiesma stolatum* belongs from Boidae and Colubridae family respectively. The anthropogenic activities, physical development, civilization and mainly the changing environmental conditions, like global warming are affecting the habitat of the animals. Therefore this important part of the ecology conflict against man. In the present investigation abundance of snake fauna rescued opined that snake produced unimaginable fear and anxiety. Right from the cases where earliest man lived, snakes would have caused first kind of poisoning [9]. Present study also observed the tress calls and down to root level at any time calls of the infrastructural development including townships etc. and as such these areas are prone to habitat loss due to which different types of snake including poisonous, semi-poisonous, non-poisonous are being noticed in the residential areas during monsoons and winter seasons. The present studies are an attempt to evaluate the information, occurrence, abundance & species richness and further assist in the knowledge, awareness and conservation of snake fauna in this region since there is acute paucity of established work and data on this subject till date. Snake bite is an acute life threatening time limiting medical emergency an occupational hazard often faced by farm laborers and farmers. It is in endemic form all over tropical countries like India. In India there are 2.5 lakhs snake bites out of which 35,000 to 50,000 deaths per year due to snake bite and this is because of less information amongst the people.

IV. CONCLUSION

The study of snakes from Pusad region including remote area, having rich diversity and it urgent need to provide correct knowledge regarding snakes especially which are venomous and nonvenomous if they pursue the knowledge, they will not panic themselves and kill the snakes, instead of they will leave them in their natural habitat, unnecessary these species use to killed by people in this way this article help to conserve snakes species for ecosystem which is essential.

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