



DO'S & DON'TS IF YOU SPOT A SNAKE

Do's

Don'ts



It is important to know that a large number of snakes in India are non-venomous.



Don't be scared on seeing a snake or try to kill it on sight as most snakes are non-venomous and harmless. In fact, they mainly feed on rodents and help in controlling their population.



Run a stick through the vegetation or tap the ground before working in a field, this will alert the snake and drive it away.



To avoid snakebites, don't work barefoot in agricultural fields or tea and coffee plantations. Wear protective shoes and gear.



Check around logs before walking over them or sitting on them.



Don't sleep on the floor; sleep on a cot. If you have to sleep on the floor, use a mosquito net tucked all around.



Use a torch when walking around in the night, especially on dirt roads and mud paths. Farmers should take precautions during crop harvesting.



Don't leave food grains uncovered in homes as it can attract rats, which in turn attracts snakes to your home.



Usually a snake will leave a place on its own so maintain safe distance and keep an eye on it.



Don't lose sight of a snake or gather around it as the snake can attack in defence.



In case of a snakebite, stay calm and rush to a nearby hospital that has antivenom. If possible, try to remember the colour and body pattern of the snake for identification.



Don't let the snakebite victim run around. Don't cut, burn or suck the wound if bitten by a snake. Don't tie the limb tightly as it can cut blood circulation and lead to loss of a limb.



In case of a snakebite, immobilize the affected limb and keep it below the heart. Cover it with a loose bandage.



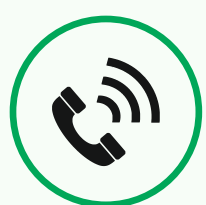
Don't panic and don't delay in getting medical help. Do not go to a *tantrik* or a snake charmer for treatment as it can cost you your life.



Turn the victim on their left side with the right leg folded while taking them to the hospital. It will prevent them from choking.



Don't leave accessories such as watch, rings on the victim's body as they can cut the skin if the limb swells.



Keep the phone numbers of snake rescuers, NGOs or the forest department to contact in case a snake enters a home.



Don't handle a snake yourself or try to catch it as this is how many people are bitten.



Cover opened crevices/gaps in doors, windows with fine wire mesh to keep out rodents and snakes.



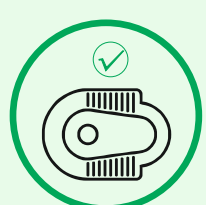
Leave snake rescues or removal to the professional snake catchers. Do not attempt to catch snakes.



Close the openings of drainage pipes with meshes so that snakes cannot come in, while sewage can flow out.



Do not try to take photos and videos of rescue operations. Allow snake rescuers sufficient space and do not crowd around them.



Check toilets and commodes for snakes before using them during the monsoon.



Don't leave let-outs in drainage pipes open as snakes can enter your home using that during rainy season.

HUMAN-WILDLIFE CONFLICT MITIGATION IN INDIA

Indo-German Cooperation on Human-Wildlife Conflict Mitigation in India
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Taking a Harmonious Co-existence
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