

Common Snakes of India

A Guide Map

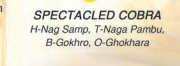
1 Venomous: Neurotoxin.
Length: around 14". Hoodless. Head and neck are black with yellow spots. Easily identified by two black rings over tail. Nocturnal. Found in coastal forests under leaves and sands. These snakes are rare. Species: Coral snakes - 3.
Distribution: WB, Gujarat, Maharashtra, Karnataka & Tamilnadu



2 Venomous: Neurotoxin.
Length: 39" to 61". Hooded. Easily identified by a distinct white monocle (O) on the hood. Nocturnal. Found mostly in watery, moist lands and human habitats, resulting in many snakebites.
Distribution: WB, UP, Haryana, Orissa, Sikkim & Assam to Arunachal Pradesh.



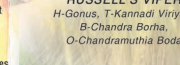
3 Venomous: Neurotoxin.
Length: 39" to 67". Hooded. (U) shaped sign present on back of hood absent in some snakes. Active in both day and night. Found in rocky fields. These snakes are quite frequent. Species: Cobras - 4.
Distribution: Throughout India.



4 Venomous: Haematotoxin.
Length: 12" to 20". Hoodless. Head is triangular. Easily identified by distinct lance mark over the head. White spots and wavy stripes on the middle of the back extend on both sides - from head to tail. Nocturnal. Found in sandy and rocky areas. Bites of this snake are numerous.
Species: Vipers - 3
Distribution: Throughout India except WB & North-East.



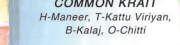
5 Venomous: Haematotoxin.
Length: 39" to 71". Hoodless. Head is flat, triangular. Robust body. Can be easily identified by three rows of circular spots from head to tail. Nocturnal. Found in small scrub jungles and termite mounds. Most fatal snakebites are by this snake.
Distribution: Throughout India.



6 Venomous: Neurotoxin.
Length: 59" to 89". Hoodless. Body triangular in cross-section. Alternate black and yellow bands present throughout the body. Nocturnal. Found in termite mounds and rodent holes that are close to the water. Though venomous, they usually do not bite. Species: Kraits - 4.
Distribution: WB, MP, UP, Bihar, Orissa, Assam, Arunachal Pradesh & Andhra Pradesh



7 Venomous: Neurotoxin.
Length: 39" to 69". Hoodless. Head comparatively small, shiny blackish or grey. White dots below the head. White paired bands all the way to the tail. Nocturnal. Most venomous snake in Asia. Usually present in rat holes, brick-stacks etc. Most of the bites occurred in bed late at night. No pain in the early stages.
Distribution: Throughout India



8 Venomous: Neurotoxin.
Length: 118" to 187". Hooded. White or yellowish cross-band all over the body. Largest hooded snake in the world. Found in deep forests and tea gardens. Bites are rare because they do not live near human habitats.
Distribution: WB, UP, Karnataka, Kerala, Goa, Tamilnadu, Andhra Pradesh, Andaman islands, Bihar & Orissa



9 Venomous: Haematotoxin.
Length: 16" to 45". Hoodless. Green coloured. Triangular head. Front of the neck black. Though it is venomous, the amount of venom is not lethal to humans. Both nocturnal and diurnal. Found in trees and in deep forests. Species: Pit Vipers - 15.
Distribution: WB, Gujarat, Tamilnadu & Maharashtra



10 Non-venomous.
Length: 39" to 67". Slender, long tail, black spot present below the eyes. Diurnal. Tree dwellers.
Distribution: Throughout India



11 Non-venomous.
Length: 39" to 69". Beauty of so many colours are not present in any other snake. Diurnal. Tree dwellers.
Distribution: WB, Bihar, Orissa, Forested hills of the South-West (South of the Goa gap) Forests of North-East India.



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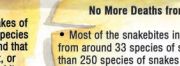
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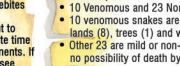
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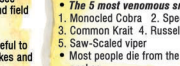
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Distribution: The main land except the east coast, Ganges valley & parts of Maharashtra



16 Non-venomous. Length: 59" to 79". The head and neck are jet black. Nocturnal. Lives in rat holes, rocky areas and crevices.
Distribution: Gujarat, Himachal Pradesh, Punjab, Kashmir & Rajasthan



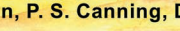
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Distribution: Most of the peninsular plains to the Himalayas, east of WB, parts of Maharashtra



18 Non-venomous. Length: 5" to 9". The smallest snake in the world. The tail is similar to the blunt head. Nocturnal. Lives underground.
Distribution: Throughout India



19 Non-venomous. Length: 30" to 39". Body is circular. Head and tail being almost similar. Some people confuse it with two headed snakes. Found in sandy or rocky area.
Distribution: Throughout drier zones of the peninsula and North-West



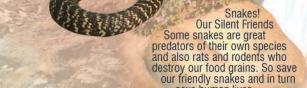
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Distribution: Throughout India



21 Non-venomous. Length: around 10". Pointed head. Inocent. It has smooth, glossy scales and is brown in colour. Blunt tail. Found under stones.
Distribution: The Western Ghats, mostly south of Goa, the Gap to Tirunelveli. Bangalore, Gujarat, Maharashtra, Madhyapradesh.



22 Non-venomous. Length: 28" to 66". Two black stripes on the back right below the head. Light bands on the underside of the body. Equally active in day and night. Found in termite mounds, leafy trees and bushes.
Distribution: Throughout India



23 Non-venomous. Length: around 31". Stumpy, body is very soft. Very similar to Red Sand Boa.
Distribution: Karnataka, Kerala, Maharashtra & Goa



24 Non-venomous. Length: 30" to 53". Arrow mark over the head. Diurnal. Found in tree holes and caves.
Distribution: Throughout India



25 Non-venomous. Length: 79" to 138". Large eyes, pointed head, black markings on the body. Very fast moving. Easily identified. Diurnal. Found to move everywhere. Expert in killing rats which destroys crops and food grains.
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26 Non-venomous. Length: around 42". Large eyes, long tail, distinct ridge between top and side of head. Diurnal. Found in rocky area. It also climbs tree.
Distribution: UP, WB, Uttaranchal, Punjab, Gujarat, Maharashtra, Bihar, Orissa



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Distribution: Throughout India.



31 Non-venomous. Length: 24" to 50". Stumpy body, the belly has yellow black bands, face is blunt. Found in rivers and adjacent lands.
Distribution: Coasts and tidal rivers



32 Venomous: Neurotoxin. Length: 24" to 43". Hoodless. Head is slender. Tail is flat and wide, all flat tailed snakes are highly venomous. Found in sea or rivers. Snakes are rare. Species: Sea snakes - 9.
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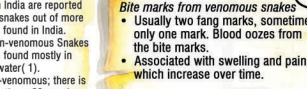
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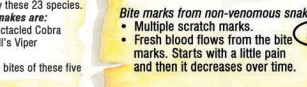
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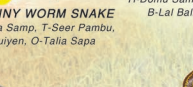
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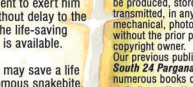
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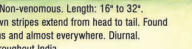
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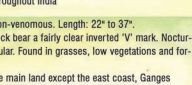
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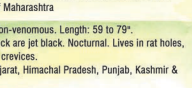
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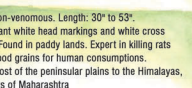
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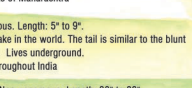
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