



Snakebite Treatment

If a venomous snake bites you, call your local emergency number immediately, especially if the bitten area changes color, begins to swell or is painful. Several local hospitals stock antivenom drugs.



Note the Snake's Appearance. Be ready to describe (or show photo) the snake to the emergency staff.



While waiting for medical help, move the person beyond striking distance of the snake



Have the person lie down with wound below the heart



Keep the person calm and at rest, remaining as still as possible to keep venom from spreading through the blood



Cover the wound with loose, sterile bandage. Not too tight, just snug is fine



Remove any jewelry from the area that was bitten, as swelling will set in



Remove shoes if the leg or foot was bitten, as swelling will set in



DO NOT:

Cut a bite wound or attempt to suck out the venom

Apply tourniquet, ice or water

Give the personal alcohol or caffeinated drinks or any other medication



At the hospital, treatment will depend on the type of snake.

If the snake was venomous, the person will be given anti-venom treatment.

A tetanus shot may be given, depending on the date of the last injection.

Snakes are an important part of the natural environment and the food chain. These are the ambush predators as well as successful hunters. In Telangana, a total of 39 species of snakes were recorded. Due to a lack of proper awareness among the people and farmers, snakes are killed without realising their significant importance.



Snakes of Telangana

Among the 39 species in Telangana, 25 (64 %) species were non-venomous, only 7 (18 %) species were venomous and 7 (18%) species were mildly venomous

In Telangana so far, a total of 39 species of snakes were recorded (Chandra et al., 2021). Snakes majorly feed on insects, amphibians, reptiles, small birds and mammals, especially rodents. It indicates the diversity and distinction in food selection of snakes.

Due to a lack of knowledge and proper awareness among the people and farmers, they kill the snakes without realising their significant importance. Habitat destruction, scarcity of prey animals, extensive use of pesticides, pollution, road kills and poaching are the major threats for the survival of snakes.

If you encounter a snake, try your best to remain calm. Snakes would rather not encounter humans, and it is probably as scary for them as it is for you. Simply back away and call **Friends of Snakes Society via +91-8374233366 (24/7 Dedicated line) for rescues.**

1. Beaked worm snake	NV	21. Bridal snake	NV
2. Brahminy blind snake	NV	22. Indian egg-eating snake	NV
3. Russell's boa	NV	23. Rainbow water snake	MV
4. Red sand boa	NV	24. Anamalai wolf snake	NV
5. Elliot's earth snake	NV	25. Common wolf snake	NV
6. Python Python	NV	26. Yellow-collared wolf snake	NV
7. Russell's viper	V	27. Yellow-spotted wolf snake	NV
8. Saw-scaled viper	V	28. Barred wolf snake	NV
9. Bamboo pit viper	V	29. Green keelback	NV
10. Common krait	V	30. Banded kukri	NV
11. Banded krait	V	31. Russell's kukri	NV
12. Slender coral snake	V	32. Nagarjunasagar racer	NV
13. Spectacled cobra	V	33. Condanarus sand snake	MV
14. Long nosed vine snake	MV	34. Stout sand snake	MV
15. Banded racer	NV	35. Rat snake	NV
16. Forsten's cat snake	MV	36. Duméril's black-headed snake	NV
17. Indian cat snake	MV	37. Buff striped keelback	NV
18. Ornate flying snake	MV	38. Olive keelback	NV
19. Common trinket snake	NV	39. Checkered keelback	NV
20. Bronzeback tree snake	NV		

MV-Mildly venomous; NV-Non-venomous; V- Venomous

Source: Updated Snakes Check List and Extended Distribution of Five Species in the State of Telangana



COMMON SNAKES OF TELANGANA



● COMMON KRAIT



● RUSSELL'S VIPER



● SAW-SCALED VIPER



● SPECTACLED COBRA



● RAT SNAKE



● COMMON WOLF SNAKE



● COMMON SAND BOA



● RED SAND BOA



● INDIAN ROCK PYTHON



● BRONZEBACK TREE SNAKE



● GREEN VINE SNAKE



● BUFF-STRIPED KEELBACK



● BANDED RACER



● CHECKERED KEELBACK

KEY:

- VENOMOUS
- NON-VENOMOUS

● SNAKE BITE FIRST AID:

- ✓ Be calm and composed. ✓ Minimize the movement in the affected limb. ✓ Go to the nearest hospital at the earliest (preferably within one hour of the bite.)
- ✗ Do not tie a rope or a ligature. ✗ Do not cut at the wound or try to suck the venom out. ✗ Do not apply ice packs, heat or electric shocks at the bite site.

IN EMERGENCY, CONTACT : Telangana Forest Department – 1 800 425 5364 (Toll free), Friends of Snakes Society – 83742 33366

www.friendsofsnakes.org