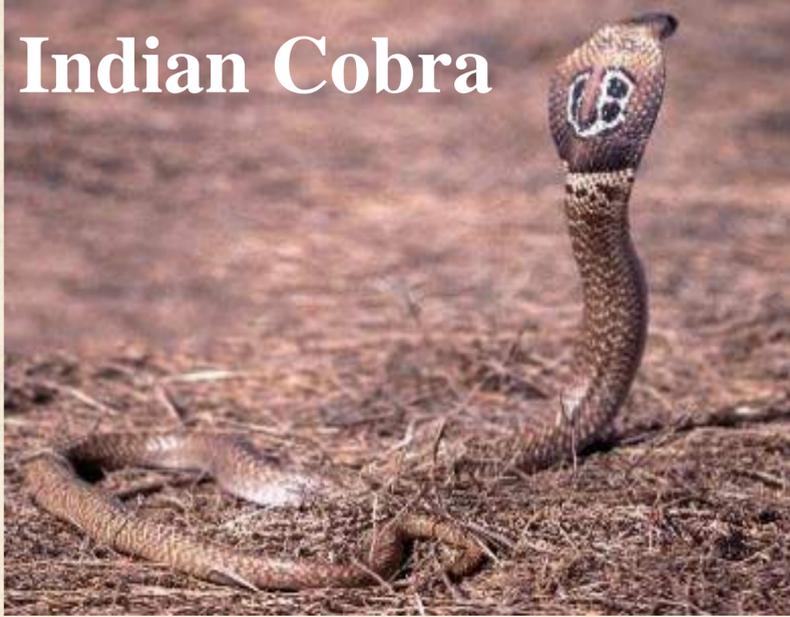


What are the commonly found venomous snakes in India?

Indian Cobra



- V/U mark on the hood
- Lives in wooden piles, small shrubs and cattle shed
- Immediate pain after bite followed by swelling and darkening of skin
- Can cause blurring of vision, difficulty to speak and breathe, and paralysis

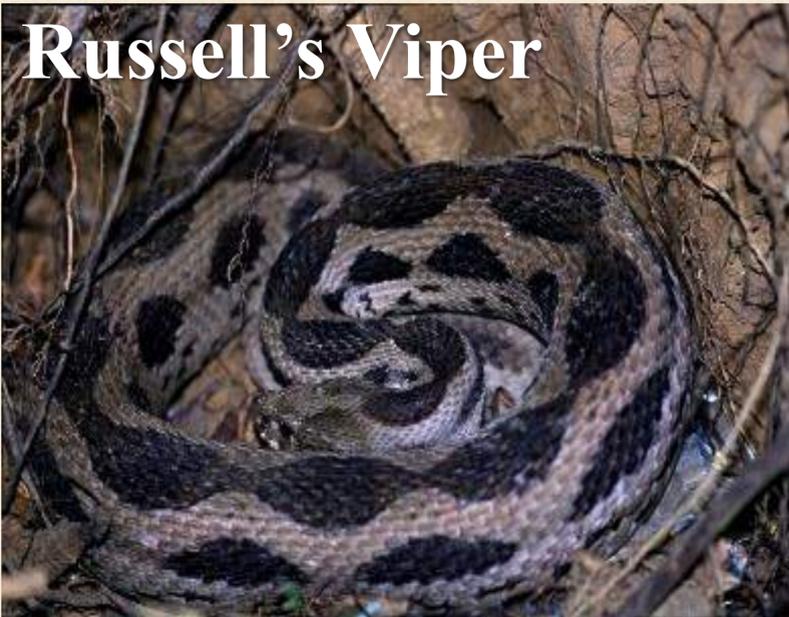
- Found during the monsoon season hiding in small pits, burrows and ditches
- Enters through small door gaps, bathroom pipes
- Causes severe abdominal pain, vomiting and weakness
- Can cause blurring of vision, difficulty to speak and breathe and paralysis

Common Krait



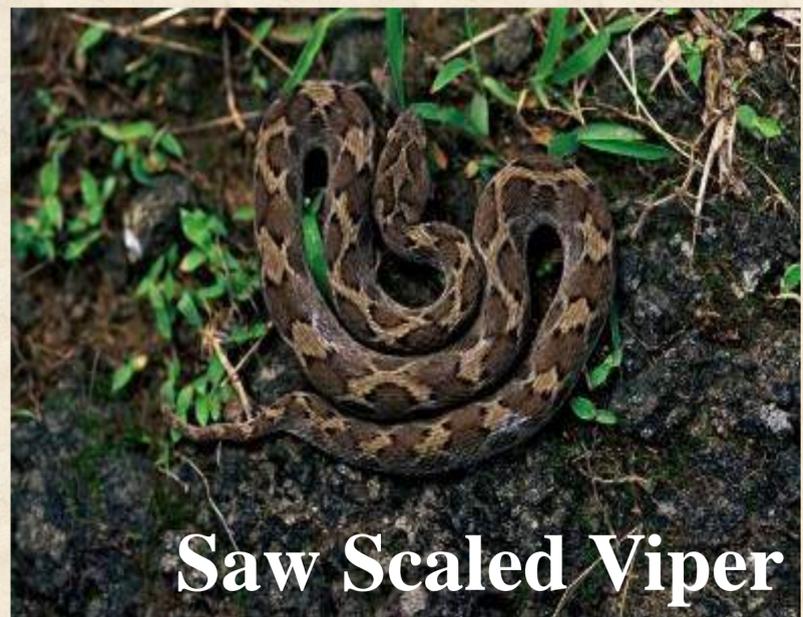
- Thick in appearance and makes sound like whistle of a pressure cooker
- Hides in sugarcane and cotton fields, tall grass
- Causes big wound at the bite site and bleeding
- Bleeding can also occur through the mouth, urine or feces

Russell's Viper



- Small snake that hides and bites when the victim is walking through grass
- The bite usually feels like a thorn prick
- Causes swelling at bite site and bleeding
- Bleeding can also occur through the mouth, urine or feces

Saw Scaled Viper



ICMR National Snakebite Project on capacity building of health systems on prevention and management of snakebite envenomation including its complications.
Principal Investigator: Dr. Rahul Gajbhiye, Scientist E (Deputy Director), ICMR National Institute for Research in Reproductive and Child Health (NIRRCH), Mumbai
Contributors: Dr. Hrishikesh Munshi, Project Scientist C (Medical), ICMR-NIRRCH, Mumbai; Dr. Himmatrao Bawaskar, Mahad, Maharashtra
Acknowledgment: Dr. Kedar Bhide, Thane, Maharashtra

What are the commonly found non-venomous snakes in India?



Indian Cat Snake



Common Trinket



Vine Snake



Indian Rat Snake



Wolf Snake



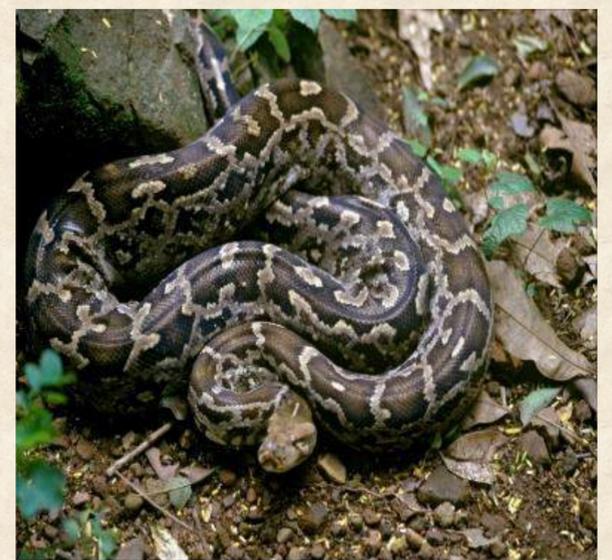
Buffed Striped Keelback



Indian Sand Boa

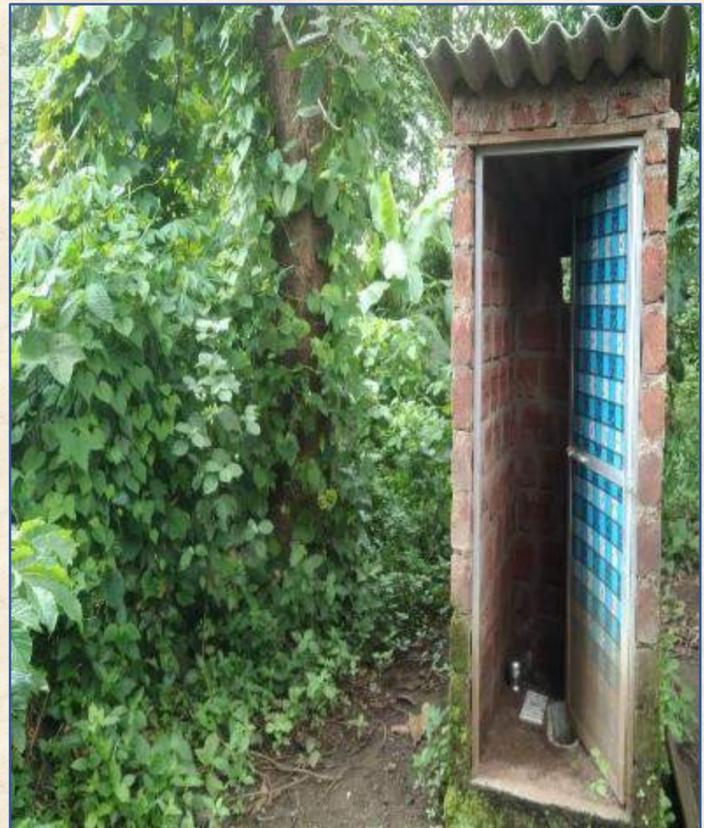


Checkered Keelback



Indian Rock Python

Where are the snakes generally hiding?



How can you prevent snakebites?



Move a wooden stick before cutting grass



Be alert while swimming



Use a bed net while sleeping



Use a torch at night



Avoid going in dense vegetation



Use gum boots while working



Keep the house and premises clean

What are the symptoms of snakebite?

The symptoms commonly occur within 15 minutes to 10 hours after snakebite.

If a snakebite victim shows any of the following symptoms, immediately take him/her to a health facility, where a doctor is available



Abdominal Pain



Vomiting



Diarrhea



Excessive Sweating



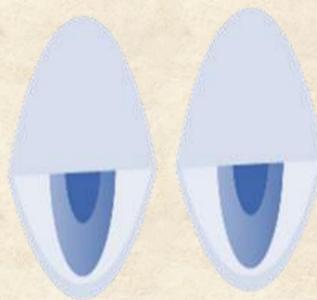
**Bleeding from mouth,
urine, feces**



**Swelling at
bite site**



**Difficulty
breathing**

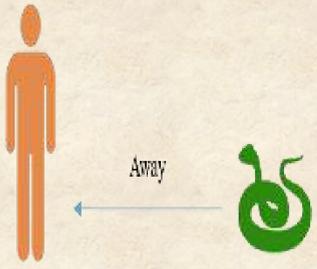


**Unable to open
eye lids**



Unconsciousness

What should be done immediately after a snakebite?



Take the victim slowly away from snake



Reassure and comfort the victim



Do not let the victim run or walk fast



Do not give anything to drink or eat



Swelling may occur at site of snakebite. So shoes, rings, wrist watch, bracelets or tight clothing must be removed as soon as possible



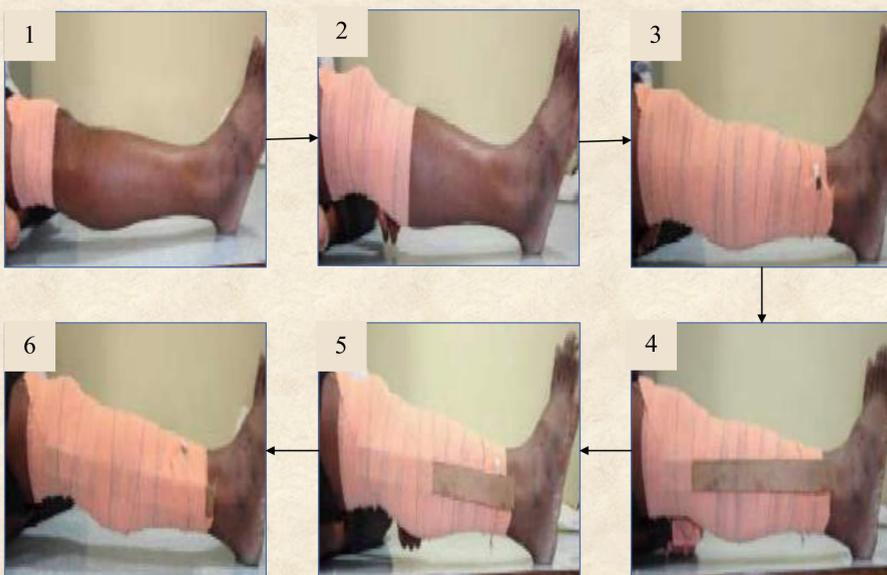
OR



OR



Make use of a newspaper rolls or a wooden stick or a steel ruler to immobilize the bitten limb

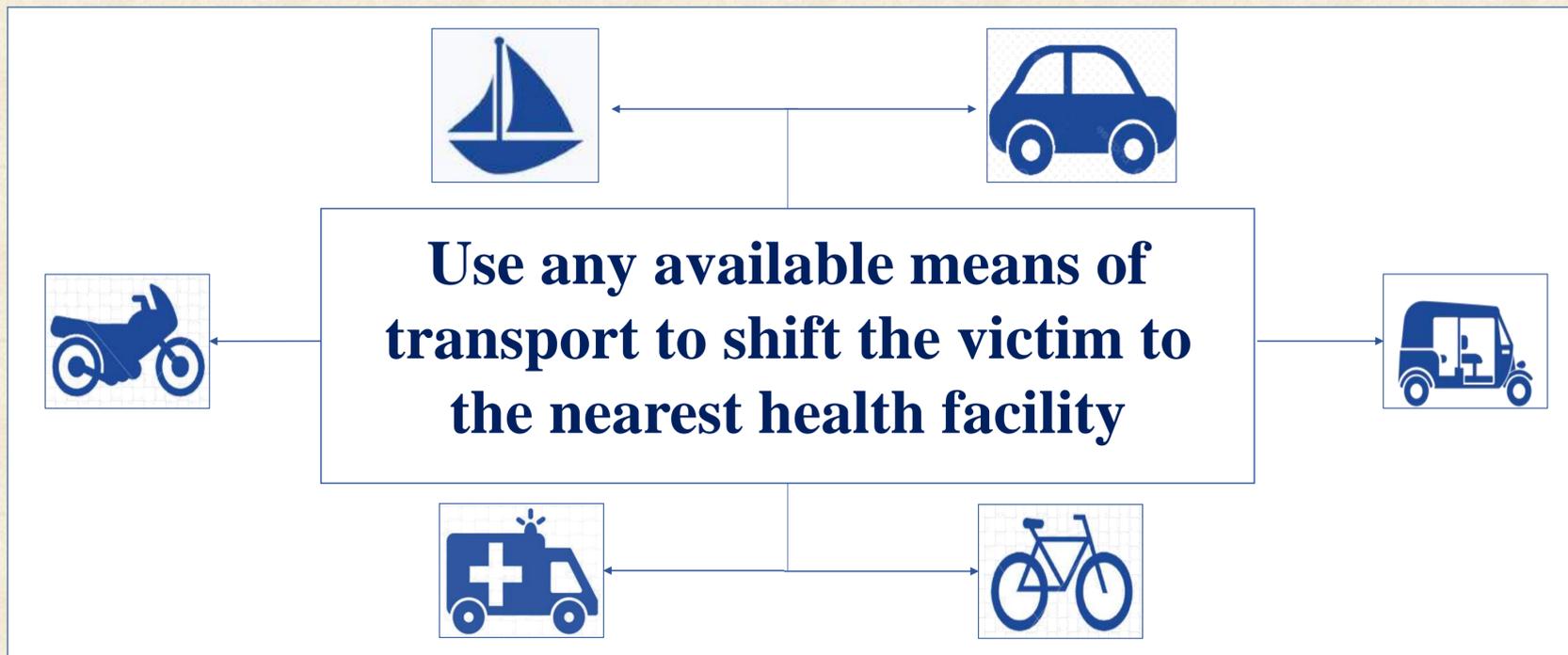


Right way of bandaging the bitten limb

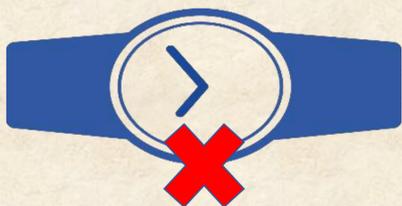


Right way to carry a victim on motorcycle

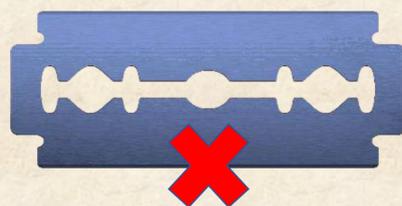
What should be done immediately after a snakebite?



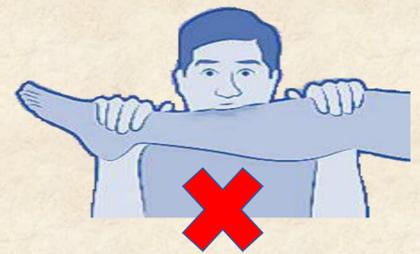
Wrong ways of tying a tourniquet can cause more harm than good



Do not waste time in finding or killing the snake



Do not cut the bitten part with a sharp object



Do not try to suck out venom through mouth

Reasons for death after snakebite –

- Non / wrong identification of snake species
- Waiting for symptoms to appear
- Spending time in accessing unproven management and engaging in superstitious non-scientific first aid practices
- Tying a rope or a bandage around the bitten area so tightly that it obstructs the blood flow
- Inability to access ambulance services in time
- Non-availability of medical officer / anti-venom at health facilities