



ISSUE:9

CSPT NEWS LETTER

THE CHENNAI SNAKE PARK TRUST'S NEWSLETTER SEP 2025

(Monthly -For Internal Circulation)



(Snake and their rescue techniques training programme for Tamil Nadu Fire and Rescue services Department personnel at CSPT.)

Training on snake and their rescue techniques to Tamil Nadu Fire & Rescue Services Dept. personnel:

On request of the Director of Tamil Nadu Fire & Rescue Services Dept, The Chennai Snake Park conducted seven- one day training programme on Snake and their rescue techniques on 8th, 11th, 15th, 18th, 22nd, 25th and 29th September 2025. Each batch contains 35 personnel. During the programme, Mr.R.Rajarathinam, Director of CSPT delivered a talk about the Chennai Snake Park, Dr.C.Arivazhagan, Dy.Director of CSPT delivered a talk about snakes. Dr.V.Kalaiarasan, Trustee of CSPT delivered a talk about Identification of Snakes and snake bite and treatment. Dr.S.Paulraj, Executive Chairman delivered a talk about legal status of snake handling to the participants during evening session Mr.S.Ravi and V.Selvam, Animal keeper demonstrated the various snake handling techniques with co-workers. During programme various documentary films on snake are screened to the participants.

CHENNAI SNAKE PARK TRUST, RAJ BHAVAN POST, CHENNAI-600022.

EDITOR : Dr. C. Arivazhagan, Dy.Director - CSPT SUB EDITOR :Mirdhula Kamaraj, Biologist-CSPT



(Dr.V.Kalaiarasan, Trustee of CSPT, presenting a talk for the Tamil Nadu Fire and Rescue services Department personnel.)



(Dr.C.Arivazhagan, Dy.Director of CSPT addressing the trainees with a talk.)

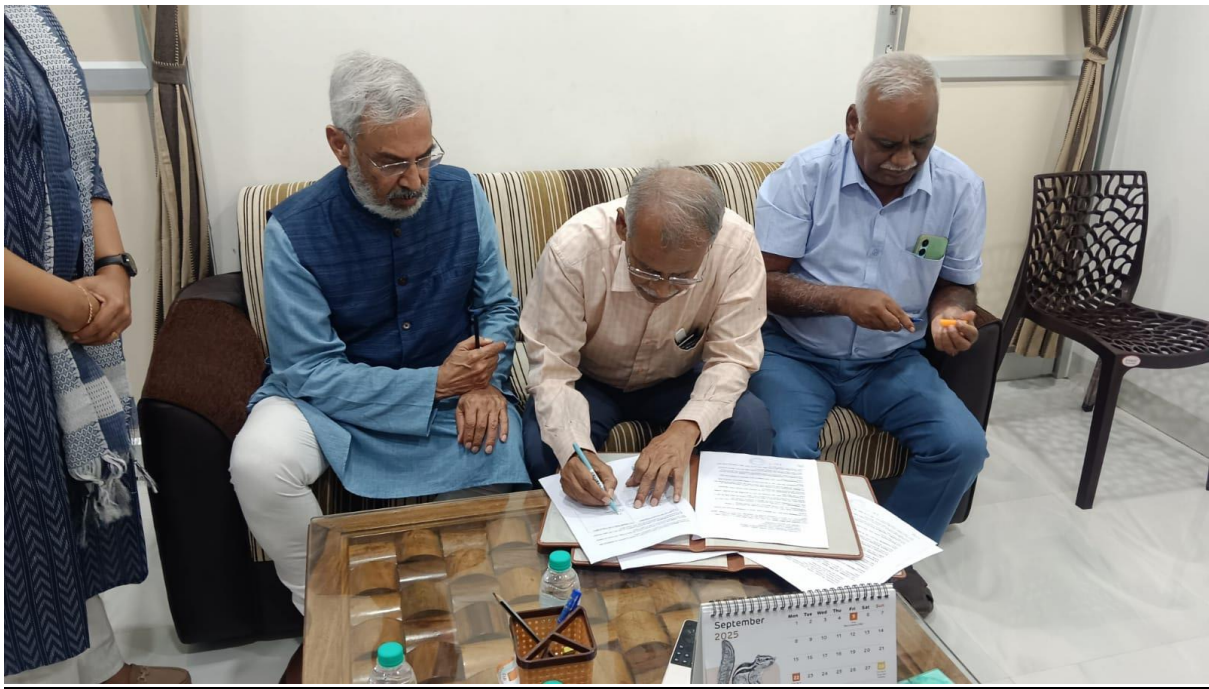


Handling session : (Snake and their rescue techniques training programme for Tamil Nadu Fire and Rescue services Department personnel at CSPT.)



MOU with Centre for Environment Education (CEE), Ahmadabad.

Shri. Kartikeya V. Sarabhai, Director, Centre for Environment Education, (CEE) Ahmadabad visited our Park on 22.09.2025. during his visit MoU between Chennai Sanke Park Trust and Centre for environment Education was signed. During occasion Dr. S.Paulraj, Executive Chairman and Shri. Kartikeya V. Sarabhai, exchanged the signed MoU. Dr. V.Kalaiarasan, Trustee of CSPT and Mr. R.Rajaratnam, Director on behalf of Chennai Snake Park Trust and Ms.Rejini Simpson, Programme Director, Southern Regional Cell, CEE were present during the event.



DR. K. RAMALINGAM, SCIENTIST NOTE:

Dr. K. Ramalingam, D.Sc. has recently published a scientific paper on Sep 3rd 2025 at Cancer Therapy & Oncology International Journal- Juniper Publishers.

“Estrogen Cancer Paradox in Breast Cancer Therapy: Imminent Problems and Continuing Challenges Risks in Breast Cancer”

Abstract: Breast cancer is unique with so many complexities like precancerous growth enhancing factors including mechanism in-vivo for metastasis and acquisition of resistance to chemotherapy and radiation. Estrogen adjuvant therapy was considered a success in the beginning since synthetic. Tamoxifen, a synthetic compound also a competitive inhibitor to growth enhancing tissue, functions as a selective estrogen receptor modulator (SERM), effectively competing with naturally synthesized estrogen in breast tissue. By inhibiting estrogen's ability to bind to its receptor, tamoxifen reduces the hormone's proliferative influence on hormone receptor-positive breast cancer cells. However, over time, this strategy has revealed a paradox. While tamoxifen and related therapies have improved survival rates, prolonged use has been associated with significant side effects and, in some cases, resistance or secondary malignancies. In the long run even the estrogen therapy revealed its side effects like a double-edged sword. The above paradox of the estrogen therapy is to be monitored since excess estrogen both in Premenopausal and postmenopausal stages/ages is detrimental. The dietary restrictions of sugar cholesterol and Omega 6 EFAs also offset the estrogen paradox.

DIRECTOR's NOTE:

During the September 2025, the Park had 24,672 Visitors (17,895 Adult and 6,777 Children).

Feedbacks from Visitors:

The visitors of the Chennai Snake Park who visited during September 2025 have given feedback in Google Business. Total 88 visitors reviewed and gave comments. Out of 88 visitors, 46 visitors have given 5star (82.27%), 27 visitors have given 4star (30.68%), 12 visitors have given 3star (13.63%), 1 visitor have given 2 star (1.13%) and 2 visitors have given 1star (2.27%). Few feedbacks are pertaining to adjacent Children's Nature Park.

TIDBITS:

THE TIMES OF INDIA – (16th September 2025)

special court for ED cases passed the restitution order under Section 8(8) of PMLA.

cast day temperatures 2°C-3°C above normal in isolated pockets of the sta-

deficit. Chengalpeta received 28 cm, around 16% below normal, Kancheepu-

month. Temperatures may be around 35°C-36°C and humidity high," said blogger Pradeep John.

-Thirissur HVDC transmission line as a strategic national asset.

Snake pops in for visit? Fret not, capture possible sans risk

Oppili.P@timesofindia.com

Chennai: Catching a snake that slithered into your house is set to get less daunting. The Chennai snake park trust has designed a device—a simple carton fitted with a pipeline—offering a safe and effective solution for snake rescues.

Once a snake enters the box through the pipe, it cannot escape, enabling its capture without any bite risk or harming the reptile.

Executive chairman of the snake park trust, S Paulraj, said most venomous snakes in Tamil Nadu such as the Russell's viper, saw-scaled viper, and krait, are land-dwellers and seldom climb walls. The cobra, the fourth member of India's 'Big Four', occasionally

climbs onto rooftops in search of prey, but by and large, venomous snakes do not prefer elevated spaces. "Hence, this device will be ideal for trapping snakes when they stray indoors," he said.

It will also prevent injuries caused to the reptiles by tongs, which fire and rescue services personnel use during rescue calls. Improper handling often leaves snakes fatally wounded, even if released later.

"By adopting safer methods, this initiative not only protects human lives but also ensures the survival of rescued reptiles. It marks a crucial step in humane wildlife management within city limits," he said.

To popularize the contraption, the snake park has

begun training 300 fire and rescue services personnel in handling snakes safely.

Snake park director S Rajarathinam said the training includes modules on identifying venomous

snakes, handling techniques, and safely guiding them into the carton. It is conducted thrice a week, and each batch consists of 35 participants.

Herpetologist V Kalai-

CONTRAPTION COACHING: Fire and rescue services personnel undergoing hands-on training in safe snake-handling techniques conducted by officials from the Chennai Snake Park Trust

Executive chairman of the snake park said most venomous snakes in TN such as the Russell's viper, saw-scaled viper, and krait, are land-dwellers and seldom climb walls

rasan, who addressed the trainees, urged them to spread awareness among residents during rescue operations. Each participant will also be provided with pamphlets illustrating the 'Big Four' snakes.

By combining innovation with training, the park hopes to set a new benchmark in urban wildlife rescue, one that safeguards both people and the reptiles, Paulraj added.

THE TIMES OF INDIA-(22nd September 2025)

Study on efficacy of herbs used by tribes to treat snake bites begins

Oppili.P@timesofindia.com

Chennai: In an effort to connect traditional wisdom with modern medicine, the Chennai Snake Park Trust along with the zoology department of Madras University has received a ₹30 lakh grant from state govt to scientifically investigate the efficacy of herbs, long used by tribal communities for treating snake bite victims.

The three-year project aims to bridge the gap between indigenous remedies practiced for generations and formal scientific validation. Lead researcher Arulvasu from the department of Zoology will head the study in collaboration with the snake park research director and noted herpetologist, V Kalaiarasan. The research will involve isolating chemical compounds in selected herbs and testing them through both in vitro and in vivo animal models. If proven effective, these plant-based formulations could emerge as complementary treatments alongside conventional antivenom, offering new hope for



By validating traditional cures, this project could honour tribal heritage while adding a valuable layer of defence in India's fight against snakebite mortality

better outcomes in snakebite victims.

The Irula tribals of Tamil Nadu have preserved this herbal knowledge as tightly guarded family traditions. "When bitten by a venomous snake, we mix and crush half a dozen herbs. The herbs used depend on the type of snake. These remedies are specific—different combinations for different species of snakes. Before giving the medicine, they check the victim's pulse and condition," an Irula tribal told TOI. This knowledge has been passed down generations, kept within families, and rarely shared with outsiders. "We usually do not reveal the names of the herbs. That is our way of preserving the wisdom."

The university and snake

park are now coordinating with tribals to get information on the closely guarded secret. Experts say such an initiative is vital in a country such as India, which records the highest number of snakebite deaths globally every year. "Traditional remedies have played a lifesaving role for centuries, especially among rural and tribal populations who lacked access to hospitals or anti-venom serum. Science must step in to test their credibility," said snake park executive chairman S Paulraj.

With the advance of allopathic medicine, even tribals increasingly rely on anti-venom serum in emergencies. But, this project adds a valuable layer of defence in India's fight against snakebite mortality, experts said.



Hindustan Times 

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You're iguana love the new reptile garden at the Chennai snake park

By [Dipanjan Sinha](#) 

Updated on: Feb 13, 2021 04:12 pm IST



It's a glass enclosure full of greenery, with no barriers between the visitors and the iguanas. The idea is to show people they don't need to fear these reptiles, says park director R Rajarathinam.

Software engineer Sathish, 28, has been fascinated by iguanas since he was a child and first watched Godzilla (the 1998 sci-fi film about a giant mutant marine iguana). So when the Chennai Snake Park inaugurated its iguana garden on January 31, he had to go.



(Photo: Sathish Sridhar)

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10/12/25, 5:27 PM

Three baby gharials turn heads at snake park - Times of India

Printed from

THE TIMES OF INDIA

Three baby gharials turn heads at snake park

Aug 3, 2025, 11:46 PM IST



Chennai: After a five-year gap, the Chennai Snake Park successfully bred gharials, with three hatchlings marking a fresh chapter in its effort to revive the endangered species through captive breeding.

The breakthrough followed the arrival of a male gharial from Vandalur Zoo, loaned under a Central Zoo Authority-approved agreement that mandates sharing half the hatchlings with the zoo. "This is the first successful breeding batch since the male's arrival," confirmed S Paulraj, executive chairman of the park.

Gharials, distinguished by their long, slender snouts, are notoriously difficult to breed in captivity. Five years ago, the park witnessed the successful hatching of 23 of 24 eggs from its original male and five females. But the death of the lone male soon after left the females without a mate, halting breeding efforts.

The new male, released cautiously into the enclosure with existing females, was initially separated by a bamboo barrier to assess compatibility. "Over time, the male bonded with one of the females, who went on to lay more than two dozen eggs," Paulraj said. Despite the promising signs, only four eggs hatched, and one hatchling died two days later. The three baby gharials are now safely kept in isolation, away from adult animals. Park veterinarians are closely monitoring their development, and early signs point to healthy growth.

<https://timesofindia.indiatimes.com/city/chennai/three-baby-gharials-turn-heads-at-snake-park/articleshowprint/123080703.cms>

1/2

10/12/25, 5:27 PM

Three baby gharials turn heads at snake park - Times of India

The presence of eggs came to light unexpectedly when an animal keeper was aggressively chased by the protective female. A subsequent inspection of the enclosure revealed four viable eggs and a clutch of infertile ones. The park has now begun feeding the surviving hatchlings with live freshwater fingerlings and is conducting an internal analysis to understand the high rate of infertility.

<https://timesofindia.indiatimes.com/city/chennai/three-baby-gharials-turn-heads-at-snake-park/articleshowprint/123080703.cms>

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Recent Public Review about Chennai Snake Park appeared in the Google Business Profile.



[Rohan Monde](#)

Local Guide • 44 reviews • 25 photos

***** 3 days ago **New**

Interesting place to visit and learn about some reptiles. Tickets are very reasonable at only Rs. 40 per adult. Not very... [View full review](#)



[Subhashini Ganesan](#)

Local Guide • 27 reviews • 2 photos

***** 4 days ago **New**

Not much too see there but u can try... [View full review](#)



[Ravindran Kadavarath](#)

Local Guide • 90 reviews • 58 photos

***** 6 days ago **New**

Very good snake park. In the heart of the city. Good parking space. Well maintained. Good hotel with reasonable price is also available within the premises, [View full review](#)



[vignesh chander](#)

Local Guide • 25 reviews • 18 photos

***** 7 days ago **New**

Very nice.



[Bora Changuna Reddy](#)

Local Guide • 12 reviews • 13 photos

***** 2 weeks ago **New**

Snakesome 🤩🤔 [View full review](#)



[Roshan K Lohani](#)

Local Guide • 119 reviews • 412 photos

***** 2 weeks ago **New**

The Chennai Snake Park is located right next to the Children's Park of Guindy National Park, though you'll need to buy a... [View full review](#)



[Balaji Ravi](#)

Local Guide • 72 reviews • 38 photos

***** 2 weeks ago **New**

We paid Rs 30 per head and Rs 20 for mobile camera. All the snakes are kept inside the glass and even the villainous... [View full review](#)



[Syed Ali Fathima](#)

Local Guide • 22 reviews • 0 photos

***** 2 weeks ago **New**

It's really nice seeing all the reptiles,, but still it could be more engaging [View full review](#)



[Catherine Joseph](#)

Local Guide • 14 reviews • 129 photos

***** 3 weeks ago **New**

Was a nice experience. Well maintained.



[Selvin Jenova](#)

Local Guide • 17 reviews • 0 photos

***** 3 weeks ago **New**

A good place to go with a kids. [View full review](#)



[Arise Child](#)

Local Guide • 463 reviews • 228 photos

***** 3 weeks ago **New**

Good



[shyam mj](#)

Local Guide • 13 reviews • 8 photos

***** 3 weeks ago **New**

Loved this place



[Adhithyan Jayaraman](#)

Local Guide • 94 reviews • 20 photos

***** 3 weeks ago **New**

Should have a induction video or live induction about snakes and how to react for a snake bite. Illustration of it in real would be more interesting than simply displaying the sleeping snakes.



[Richard Michael](#)

2 reviews • 4 photos

***** 3 weeks ago **New**

Good place to see ,many snakes and animals are there. [View full review](#)



[Sam](#)

3 reviews • 0 photos

***** 3 weeks ago **New**

mysterious vibes ! [View full review](#)



[Nikhil A. Nair](#)

Local Guide • 36 reviews • 52 photos

***** 4 weeks ago **New**

If you like snakes and other reptiles do visit this park. I had a fun time with my family. [View full review](#)



[Sahitya Madhu](#)

Local Guide • 36 reviews • 52 photos

***** 4 weeks ago **New**

Can visit once to have a glance [View full review](#)



[Siddharthan subramani](#)

6 reviews • 9 photos

***** 4 weeks ago **New**

Good



[Selva Kumar](#)

Local Guide • 174 reviews • 14 photos

***** 4 weeks ago **New**

Nice place to visit with children. A lot of snakes they can see. Better there if canteen with lunch is available. Other things are good and a must visit place for children



[Karthika Sekaran](#)

3 reviews • 2 photos

***** 4 weeks ago

It's nice place... Wonderful experience... [View full review](#)



[Ravinder Sondhi](#)

Local Guide • 198 reviews • 4357 photos

***** 4 weeks ago

Nice, well maintained park. lot's of snake variety and crocodiles. had fun..watched AR and VR shows also amazingly made..please do visit with family and friends.. [View full review](#)



[Rekha Kumbhakar](#)

2 reviews • 24 photos

***** 4 weeks ago

Very good place. And must try the VR show.