



CSPT NEWSLETTER

ISSUE: 16

THE CHENNAI SNAKE PARK TRUST'S NEWSLETTER

APRIL 2026

(Monthly -For Internal Circulation)

FROM THE EXECUTIVE CHAIRMAN'S DESK:

Dr.S.Paulraj, Ph. D., IFS (Retd)

Executive Charman.

SUMMER SEASON ACTIVITIES:

Dear Readers,

Summer season every year is special for our Park in Two ways: 1. Due to summer vacation for the educational institutions, the footfall of visitors will be about three times higher when compared to other seasons; 2. Due to rising temperature, our park Reptiles, being cold-blooded animals, will be facing extra stress. We have to make special arrangements to tackle these seasonal impacts.

Entertaining the visitors, especially the children, as a part of an awareness programme is a specialty of this Park. Ring throw, by identifying the snake species is a good attraction. Although this game is common, we try to make it as an interactive learning game. Next attraction is our AR (Augmented Reality) show in which the visitors feel like interacting with various reptiles including snakes. Through this programme, we want to reduce unnecessary fear of snakes and to change their aversion towards snakes. Visiting various enclosures along with interactive learning games and activities, make the visitors spend their time actively. This summer we introduced Nature Walk / trekking inside nearby forest area where the visitors could enjoy nature but also see some captive animals in their wild habitat. This programme is conducted for all aged people during weekends.

Coming to the special arrangements to combat against the excessive heat, we provide sprinklers with cool water vapor not only for the caged animals but also for the visitors along their walking path. Sprinkling water through sprayers for selected animals is also done to cool their body.

Welcome to the Chennai Snake Park and enjoy your summer holidays with our special arrangements in a cool environment.

Kindly yours

Dr.S.Paulraj

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(Ring throw as part of Educational game)



(Augmented Reality show)



(Nature Walk/ Trecking to the forest areas)



(Summer Arrangement- Water spraying inside the animal enclosure)

DIRECTOR's NOTE:

During the April 2026, the Park had 21,599 Visitors (17,214 Adult and 4,285 Children).

On 14.04.2026, 41 Forest Ranger Officer trainee from Gujarat Forest Rangers College, Rajpipla, Gujarat visited the Chennai Snake Park as a field visit along with one faculty member. Mr. R.Rajarathinam, Director interacted with Forest Range Officers and highlighted the activities of the Chennai Snake Park.



(Forest Range Officer trainees visiting inside the Iguana Garden enclosure with the Director of CSPT Mr.R.Rajarathinam.)



(Mr.R.Rajarathinam, Director of CSPT interacting with the Forest Ranger Officer trainee from Gujarat)

FEEDBACK FROM THE PARK VISITORS:

The visitors of the Chennai Snake Park who visited during April 2026 has given feedback in Google Business. Total 62 visitors reviewed and have given comments.

Out of 62 visitors, 29 visitors have given 5star (46.77 %), 19 visitors have given 4star (30.65%), 11 visitors have given 3star (17.74 %), and one visitor have given 2 star (1.61 %) and 2 visitors have given one star (3.22%).

SCIENTIST’S NOTE:

Dr. K. Ramalingam – (Trustee of Chennai Snake Park) has authored a paper titled “DEXAMETHAZONE A PARASPECIFIC DRUG IN SNAKE BITE VICTIMS”

Abstract:

Snakebite envenomation remains a major neglected tropical disease, particularly in rural regions of Asia and Africa, contributing to significant morbidity and mortality. While antivenom therapy is the cornerstone of treatment, adjunct therapies such as corticosteroids have been widely used despite controversial evidence. Dexamethasone, a potent glucocorticoid, has been explored as a para-specific drug due to its anti-inflammatory and immunomodulatory properties. This paper critically examines the role of dexamethasone in snakebite management by reviewing experimental studies, clinical trials, and global treatment guidelines. Evidence suggests that dexamethasone may reduce inflammation, edema, and local tissue damage induced by venom toxins. However, major health organizations, including WHO, do not recommend corticosteroids for routine snakebite treatment due to lack of evidence in improving survival outcomes and concerns about masking clinical symptoms.

This review integrates pharmacological mechanisms, clinical observations, and evidence-based medicine to evaluate whether dexamethasone holds therapeutic relevance beyond supportive care. The findings indicate that while dexamethasone may have limited utility as an adjunct in specific conditions such as allergic reactions to antivenom or severe inflammatory responses, it cannot replace antivenom therapy. Further randomized controlled trials are necessary to establish clear clinical protocols. This paper highlights the need for rational drug use and improved awareness among healthcare professionals.

Keywords: Snakebite, Dexamethasone, Corticosteroids, Envenomation, Antivenom, Para-specific therapy

BIOLOGIST'S NOTE:



(Staffs of CSPT giving medication for an injured Reticulated python)

- As instructed by the Veterinarians an injured Reticulated Python is followed with medications and feeding was given. The animal is found to give a positive response to the medication and it started to consume feed. And also observed to moult its skin.
- An injured Gharial juvenile stage is under medication due to infightings with other Gharial and was treated in Madras Veterinary college and Hospital. The same has appeared in the “Times of India” newspaper. News article has been attached in the forthcoming “TIDBITS” section.

INTERNSHIP PROGRAMME:

Students started to visit Chennai Snake Park for their internship programme on reptiles. Recently 4 students from Sacred Heart College , Kochi , Kerala have made their study report on Gharial species at Chennai Snake Park.

TIDBITS




(News article released in "THE TIMES OF INDIA" about an injured Gharial- juvenile stage, dated 13th April 2026.)

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

 **R. SUDARMANI******* Very enjoyment

 **venkatesh k******* Very nice and clean, even maintenance is good

 **Ravi Pandian******* I like snake 🐍🐍🐍🐍🐍🐍

 **Ravikiran Reddy******* Good especially crocodiles



Bharkavi Bharkavi***** Good and neat place



Sivaraman Sandilya***** Located in the Guindy area in Chennai. This place is easily accessible through road as well as metro.



Jayee Han***** We loved it so much. Ticket was so cheap. There are lots of snakes and crocodiles. I just wish the crocodiles had more...



The Explorer*****

Variety of snakes



Ujai Kumar***** Very nice pleasant location but under developed , can charge a bit more like 50 rupees and renovate nicely



Vallabh Garini***** The snake park is amazing you see variety of snakes, Crocodiles, Turtles.



Biplab Upadhyaya



Raj Shekar***** Crocodiles are good



Manjunath M***** We recently visited Chennai Snake Park, and it was an interesting and enjoyable experience overall.



Sree Krishna Yaddanapudi***** Good place that excite the kids with variety of reptiles..kids would love it .. small and quick to cover ...



Sid***** Good place to see different reptiles and learn something new. Avoid visiting in summer



Bablu Rai*****

Visit must




Basil Mathai***** Good for family outing in the park



Tapan ruidas***** Very good park

TANAY*****Overall good informative snake park at Chennai with various snakes python gecko tortoise and crocodile, full information provided for all specices. Mobile charges of ₹20/- is taken with tickets.

 **Dileep*******Guindy Snake Park is an interesting and educational place to visit in Chennai, especially for those curious about...

 **pranish nair*******Surely will be a excitement for kids who like reptiles

 **Kovendhan Suresh**
*****Small but Nice

 **raghu sharma*******Very unique experience.

 **Luke Pun*******A gigantic crocodile is residing here.