

## Snake Conservation in India

My Part is: Awareness Programme for School Childrens & College Students -more than 800 school -participated my awareness programme  
Training programme for Snake volunteers  
Injured Snake received from Snake volunteers, After Treatment and surgery released into forest  
Snake Eggs collected from various part of the city area and hatching through incubator and released in to forest

A recent review of studies involving 17 populations of 8 snake species, including Ball Pythons, Asps, Rhinoceros Vipers and Gaboon Vipers, has raised the alarming possibility that steep declines may be in progress in many countries. While it is too early to draw conclusions, this news is disturbingly similar to the origins of the global amphibian decline first uncovered in 1990.

A massive number of snakes are being lost each year through the combination of many man-made threats mentioned above. This unnatural decline in snake populations cannot rebound on its own. This is why the conservation of many snake species is required. Without assistance, many snake species simply cannot continue to survive the many hazards we have created for them.



As effective conservation actions lead to increasing wildlife populations, they often come into conflict with burgeoning human populations with which they share space.



Resolving human-wildlife conflict has thus become an important aspect of conservation science especially in biologically rich and densely populated countries like India. However, most research in this sphere concerns large, charismatic organisms, which are restricted to small regions in a vast country.

Human-snake conflict on the other hand is not restricted to pockets of natural habitats and is probably the most common and the most widespread form of such conflict in India occurring in both remote villages and densely populated cities

Dr.K.Asokan.B.V.Sc

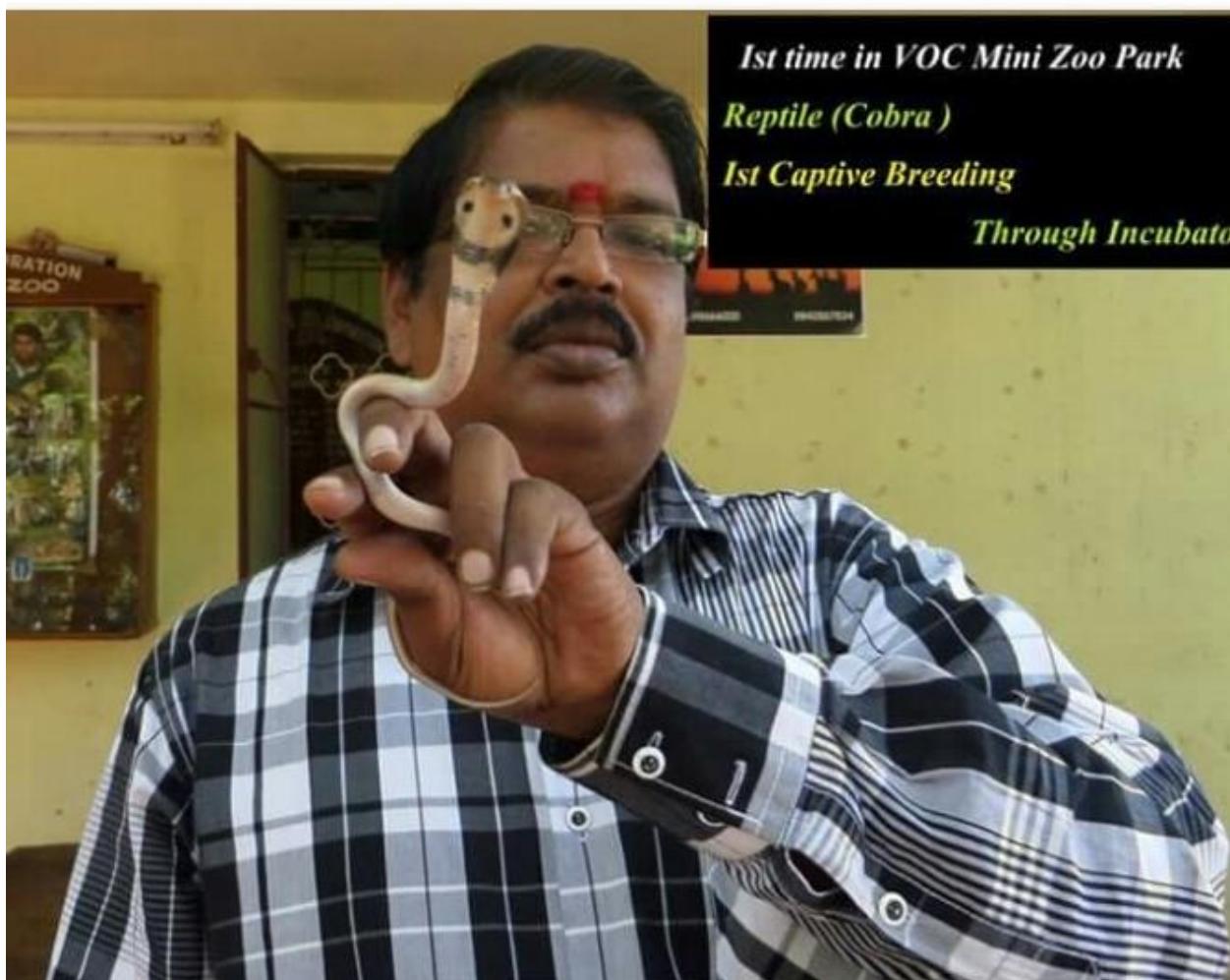
### One in five reptile species faces extinction

:::Nearly one in five of the world's estimated 10,000 species of lizards, snakes, turtles, crocodiles and other reptiles are threatened with extinction, according to a study conducted by 200 experts....."Tackling the identified threats, which include habitat loss and harvesting, are key conservation priorities in order to reverse the declines in these reptiles,"



## We Don't Know What We're Missing

Hundreds of reptiles are endangered. And the problem could be greater than we think. Scientists estimate that there may be thousands of reptile species still undiscovered. Some species may go extinct before we even know they exist.



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## Rare albino cobra is latest addition at Coimbatore zoo

Arun P Mathew, TNN | Sep 17, 2012, 04:46AM IST

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**COIMBATORE:** An albino cobra became the latest addition to Coimbatore Zoo during this weekend after it was rescued from B K Pudur on the outskirts of the city.

The cobra, found near a house, was rescued by its owner R Rajesh, along with his friend S Dinesan on Friday afternoon and handed over to the city zoo soon after.

According to zoo director K Ashokan, the reptile was just a few days old and will be well-cared for at the zoo. It is being fed eggs and water. "Albino snakes lack the melanin pigmentation that other snakes have. The lack of melanin is mainly due to genetic traits. Such snakes are rare in the state and even in the country," he said.

# DECCAN Chronicle

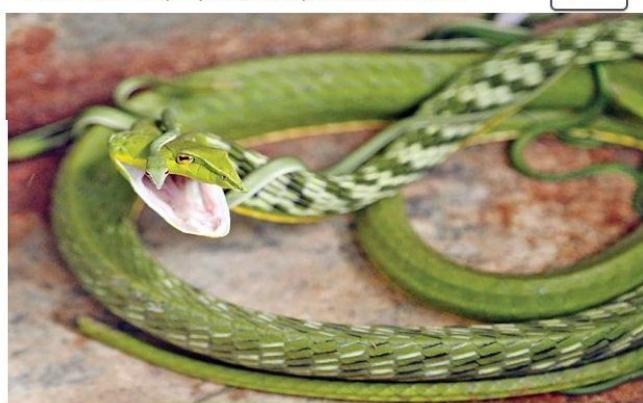
Friday, Jul 08, 2016 | Last Update : 12:14 AM IST

NATION, CURRENT AFFAIRS

## Eighteen green vine snakes born in captivity

DC CORRESPONDENT

Published Oct 19, 2014, 12:17 pm IST Updated Jan 10, 2016, 8:38 am IST  
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**Coimbatore:** Eighteen baby green vine snakes are the new, slithery attractions at the VOC zoological park in Coimbatore.

VOC zoological park director K. Ashokan said the snake, which is aged around five years, gave birth to 18 baby snakes after a gestation period of six months.

"The young ones will be let into the forest cover near Madukkarai in a few more days. Last year, too, a green vine snake gave birth to 18 babies. These snakes normally live up to 18 years under captivity," he said. As of now, the zoo has a total of 95 snakes ranging from python, cobra, krait, Russell's viper and others.

"The number of snakes have increased from just six in 2011 to 95 now, due to better feed management and personal care," he said.

Tags: current affairs, coimbatore

Location: Tamil Nadu

# Python hatches 22 eggs at Coimbatore Corporation Zoo

Staff Reporter

**COIMBATORE:** The 25-year-old Indian Rock Python at the Coimbatore Corporation Zoo on Wednesday hatched 22 of the 23 eggs it had laid 40 days ago.

A team led by Zoo Director K. Asokan transferred the hatchlings to a separate enclosure to provide the right environment for their healthy growth. "The hatchlings need 35 degree Centigrade for their growth," he said. To ensure the temperature, the team had installed a 60 Watt bulb and a thermometer to monitor the same.

## Survival rate

On alternate days the Zoo workers would feed small chicken pieces or egg yolk to the young ones. The aim is to ensure cent per cent survival rate. Pythons live for about 40 years in captivity and lesser duration in the wild.

The gender of the hatchlings will only be known later. Mr. Asokan said that the female pythons are bigger in size and weigh more than the male. However both measure the same in length.

With the 22, the total num-



**NEW INMATES:** *The python along with its 22 hatchlings at the Coimbatore Corporation Zoo on Wednesday.* - PHOTO: M. PERIASAMY

ber of pythons in the zoo goes up to 24. The Zoo also has eight cobras, as many rat snakes and six Russel's Vipers.

There was no plan to give away the pythons to any other zoo or organisation because there was every possibility that the Zoo being converted into a reptile park.

Pythons usually mate in

October - November, lay anywhere between 20 and 40 eggs after 80 days gestation period. They then take another 40 days to hatch the eggs. During the 120-day period, the female python at the Zoo had only water and no other food. It lay coiled to maintain its body temperature at 70 degree Centigrade so that the warmth is uniformly distrib-

uted to all the eggs.

Mr. Asokan said the Indian Rock Python was fast dwindling in numbers as it was being hunted for its hide, used to make shoes, wallet and belts.

Earlier in the day, Mayor S.M. Velusamy and Commissioner T.K. Ponnusamy went to the Zoo to see the hatchlings.



## Coimbatore zoo gets three cobras

Coimbatore 22/08/2013: Newly hatched cobras at the Coimbatore Corporation Zoo, Tamil Nadu, on Thursday. Photo: M. Periasamy.

The Hindu

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The Coimbatore Corporation Zoo here has three new cobra hatchlings, thanks to incubation of eggs by the Zoo authorities.

According to K. Asokan, Zoo Director, after 30 days of incubation, the authorities were able to get three cobra hatchlings.

A hatchling died while coming out of the egg.

Six eggs turned bad soon after the cobra laid the eggs about a month ago.

The young ones would turn venomous after two months and until then it would be easy to handle.

For the first 10 days, the cobra hatchlings would consume only water.

Thereafter, they would consume small rats.

They would grow to be adults in six months, he added. Cobra has an average lifespan of 20 years.