

Hump Nosed pit viper

The Hump-Nosed Pit Viper is a venomous species found in South Asia. It is also known as the Indian Hump-Nosed Pit Viper. The scientific name of the species is Hypnale hypnale. This viper has a unique appearance and venom that makes it a fascinating subject for study.

Characteristics	Description
Name	Hump Nosed Pit Viper
Scientific Name	Hypnale hypnale
Colour	Brownish or grayish, with dark brown or black zigzag bands
Length	60-80 cm
Habitat	Rocky areas, forests, plantations, and human settlements
Toxicity Level	Highly venomous
Indian states where it's found	Kerala, Karnataka, Tamil Nadu, Andhra Pradesh
IUCN status	Not Evaluated

Features

The Hump-Nosed Pit Viper is a medium-sized snake that grows up to 80 cm in length. Its head is triangular in shape and features a prominent hump on the snout. The body of the snake is thick and muscular. The color of the snake varies from greyish-brown to reddish-brown. It has a distinct pattern of irregular crossbars on its body. The average weight of the snake is around 150 grams.

Type of venom

The venom of the Hump-Nosed Pit Viper is a hemotoxic and cytotoxic mixture that causes severe pain, swelling, and tissue damage. The venom can also cause internal bleeding, kidney failure, and other serious health issues.

Habitat and food

The Hump-Nosed Pit Viper is commonly found in forested areas and rocky hillsides throughout South Asia, including India, Sri Lanka, Bangladesh, and Nepal. The snake is nocturnal and feeds mainly on rodents, lizards, and frogs.

Where is it found in India

In India, the Hump-Nosed Pit Viper is found in the Western Ghats, the Eastern Ghats, and the forests of the Northeast region. The snake prefers to live in damp, humid areas and is often found near streams and rivers.

Importance to ecosystem

Like all snakes, the Hump-Nosed Pit Viper plays an important role in the ecosystem. It helps to control the population of small animals like rodents and lizards, which can become pests if left unchecked. Snakes are also important prey for larger predators like birds of prey and mammals. In addition, the venom of the Hump-Nosed Pit Viper has been used in traditional medicine to treat a variety of ailments.

IUCN status

The Hump-Nosed Pit Viper is listed as a species of Least Concern by the International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN). The snake is common in its range, and its population

is stable. However, like all wildlife, the Hump-Nosed Pit Viper is threatened by habitat loss, pollution, and other human activities. Conservation efforts are needed to ensure that this species continues to thrive in the wild.