

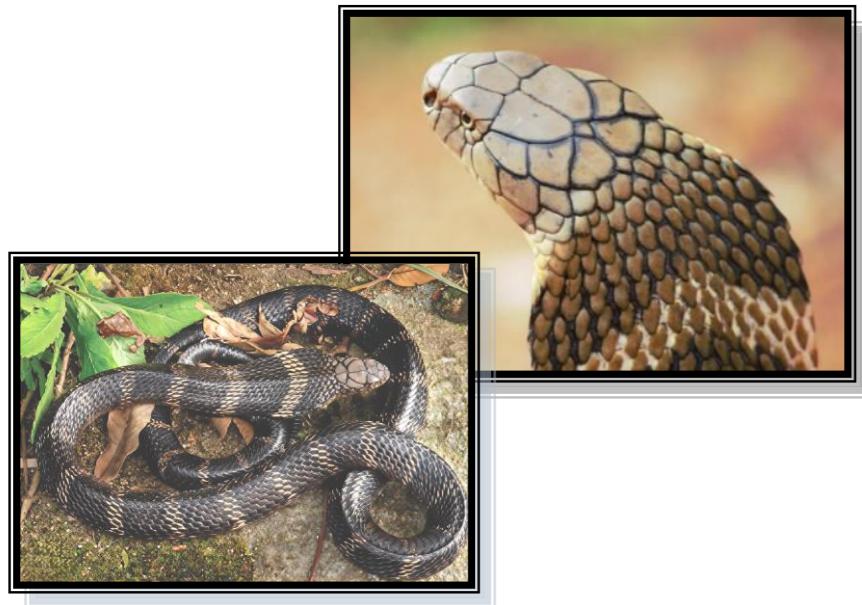
National Workshop

on

“Epidemiology of Snakebites: Challenges and Management”

18th – 19th March, 2026

Venue: PG Council Hall, Utkal University



Jointly organized by

Department of Zoology, Utkal University

&

Zoological Society of Orissa, Bhubaneswar



About the Workshop

Snakebites are well-known medical emergencies in many parts of the world. The South-East Asia Region is one of the world's most affected regions, due to its high population density, widespread agriculture activities, abundance of venomous snakes and lack of necessary community awareness to address the problem. Regardless of the increasing knowledge about the composition of snake venom and its mode of action, and a sound understanding of clinical features of envenoming, management of snakebites remains a challenge.

India bears the highest burden of snakebite deaths globally. An estimated 58,000 deaths occur annually according to the report, “Time to Bite Back: Catalyzing a Global Response to Snakebite Envenoming”, released at the 78th World Health Assembly held in Geneva, Switzerland, on 19 - 27 May 2025 by Global Snakebite Taskforce.

Despite the implementation of a National Action Plan for Prevention and Control of Snakebite Envenoming (NAP-SE), snakebite envenomation is a significant public health concern in India. Even though being a preventable and treatable condition, snakebites continue to cause high rates of mortality and long-term disability due to delays in treatment, lack of awareness, and inadequate healthcare infrastructure. The World Health Organization (WHO) has recognized snakebite envenomation a neglected tropical disease, emphasizing the urgent need for coordinated efforts in prevention, education, and effective management. WHO has the target of halving deaths and disabilities from snakebite envenoming by 2030 and calls on the global community to accelerate action.

Considering snakebite envenomation as a vital public health concern, the proposed national workshop on "**Epidemiology of Snakebites: Challenges and Management**" aims to bring together healthcare professionals, public health officials, emergency responders, and policy-makers to enhance knowledge and skills in the clinical management, first aid, and prevention of snakebite incidents. The workshop will also address the importance of community awareness, the availability and proper use of antivenom, and the integration of traditional and modern practices within national health systems.

Major Themes of the Conference

- ❖ Epidemiology of Snakebite in India
- ❖ Identification of Venomous and Non-venomous Snakes
- ❖ Clinical Manifestations of Envenomation
- ❖ Anti-Snake Venom: Availability, Challenges & Safe usage
- ❖ Case Studies and Hands-on Training in First Aid
- ❖ Awareness and Outreach Models for Rural Communities

Objectives:

1. **To generate awareness** about venomous and non-venomous snakes and their bites.
2. **To enhance understanding** of the epidemiology, classification, and clinical manifestations of venomous snakebites.
3. **To train healthcare professionals** in the standardized protocols for first aid, diagnosis, and treatment of snakebite envenomation.
4. **To improve the accessibility and appropriate use** of antivenom therapies in healthcare facilities.
5. **To develop strategies** for effective community engagement and public education on snakebite prevention and early response.
6. **To foster collaboration** among government agencies, non-governmental organizations, and academic institutions for policy development and resource mobilization.

Target Participants

- Medical Practitioners & Emergency Physicians
- Veterinary Experts
- Public Health Professionals
- Paramedical Staff & Nurses
- Research Scholars & Academicians (Life Sciences/ Zoology/ Medicine)
- NGOs & Community Health Workers
- Policy Makers & Representatives of Health Agencies
- Students and Researchers

Utkal University (NAAC A+)

Established in the year 1943, it is the Mother University of the State and the 17th oldest University of the country. It is a teaching-cum-affiliating university that spreads over 399.9 acre area in the heart of Bhubaneswar, and known for quality education and research.

Department of Zoology

The Department of Zoology was born on 21st July, 1960 with Prof. B. K. Behura as the founder Professor at the historic Ravenshaw College (presently Ravenshaw University), Cuttack, Odisha. The Department was shifted to the Utkal University Campus on 12th July, 1973 and since then the Department has been imparting teaching and training students in various emerging areas of Zoology. Besides, the department has been recognized by UGC (DRS) and DST, Govt. of India (FIST, PURSE) for its contribution in the field of Zoological research. Notwithstanding the highs and lows during the 67 years of existence, the department has earned many laurels and made a name in Zoology in the national arena.

Zoological Society of Orissa

Zoological Society of Orissa (ZSO), established in 1958 (registered under Societies Registration Act of Odisha, 1860: Regd. No. 2174/1180 of 1963-64), is the Society for the Zoologists of the State. The Society, with its office at the Department of Zoology, Utkal University, Bhubaneswar, publishes a journal named "Pranikee" annually. It organizes National Seminars/ Conferences/ Workshops, etc. in collaboration with interested Colleges/ Universities/ Institutions, at least annually, along with its Annual General Body Meeting. The Zoologists of the State are encouraged to visit the website of the Society, www.pranikee.org and become Life Members by paying the required fee of Rs. 1000.00.

(Contact: Secretary, ZSO: Mobile No. 9438328039)



Registration Fee (INR)

| Category | On or before 15.03.2026 | On the spot |
|-------------|----------------------------|-------------|
| UG Students | INR 100/- | INR 150/- |

Payment to be transferred to the following account through any available mode of online transaction:

Account Name: SEMINAR WORKSHOP
A/C No. 80162610001241, IFSC Code. CNRB0018016
Canara bank, Utkal University Campus branch, Bhubaneswar

Present UG/PG students desirous of becoming Life members of ZSO (Rs. 1000.00) shall be exempted from registration fees of the Conference

Scan the QR Code
or click the link for
Registration

<https://forms.gle/2Qf9paTZoV324BZf9>



Scan the QR Code
Or click the link For
Venue

<https://maps.app.goo.gl/igyZBPQU6PZCq6R7>



Invited Speakers

| Name & designation | Contact details |
|---|--------------------------------------|
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Organizing Committee

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Co-Convener

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**Together for a Snakebite-free India:
Awareness, Action and Saving Lives**

