



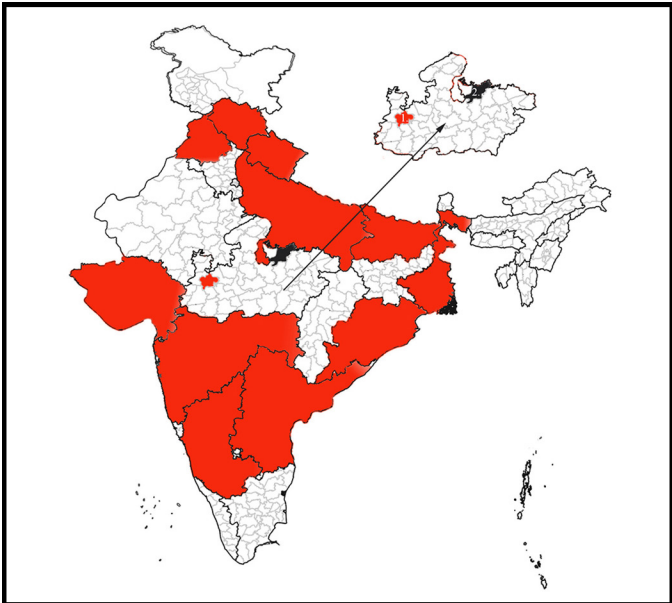
# A New Locality Record for the Condanarus Sandsnake, *Psammophis condanarus* (Psammophiidae), from Buxwaha, Chhatarpur District, Madhya Pradesh, India

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In India, sandsnakes in the genus *Psammophis* are represented by four species: *P. condanarus* (Merrem 1820), *P. leithii* (Günther 1869), *P. schokari* (Forskal 1775), and *P. longifrons* (Boulenger 1896). The Condanarus Sandsnake (*P. condanarus*), which also is known to occur in Pakistan, Nepal, Myanmar, and Laos (Uetz et al. 2020), occupies diverse habitats that include moist grasslands, shrublands, forests, and agricultural areas (Schleich and Kästle 2002; Sharma 2003; McKay 2006). In India, the species has been recorded from the states of Uttarakhand, Punjab, Gujarat, Maharashtra, Uttar Pradesh, Bihar, Orissa, West Bengal, Himachal Pradesh, Karnataka, Madhya Pradesh, and in the Eastern Ghats of Andhra Pradesh (Ali 1943; Prasad 1993; Ingle 2002; Whitaker and Captain 2004; Chandra and Gajbe 2005; Saikia et al. 2007; Ganesh et al. 2017).



**Fig. 2.** Map of India showing the distribution of the Condanarus Sandsnake (*P. condanarus*; red shading) and the new locality record in Buxwaha, Chhatarpur District, Madhya Pradesh (black shading).



**Fig. 1.** A rescued Condanarus Sandsnake (*Psammophis condanarus*) from Buxwaha, Madhya Pradesh, India. Photograph by Yogesh H. Vamdev.

On 24 September 2015, we rescued an adult (total length 79.5 cm) Condanarus Sandsnake in Buxwaha, Chhatarpur District, Madhya Pradesh (24.272669°N, 79.29946°E; elev. 480 m asl). The snake was found in a settlement surrounded by agricultural areas and shrubland. We confirmed the identity of the snake by using descriptions in Smith (1943) and Whitaker and Captain (2004). This new locality record for the species in Madhya Pradesh is about 400 km (straight-line distance) from the nearest previous record in Ujjain District (Chandra and Gajbe 2005).

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