



Figure 1. *Xylophis perroteti* feeding on *Plectrurus perrotetii*.

important for understanding the feeding ecology of this endemic snake species.

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Data analytics: India needs an agency for health data

India has no centralized body for disseminating and maintaining health data that itself is capable to analyse its health data. I propose the formation of a national health data agency (HDA) to provide an efficient and alternative system to counter the existing bureaucratic systems. HDA would necessarily utilize the underlying framework of performing three key tasks: collection, standardization, and analysis of health data across several domains (e.g. government, private, personal, etc.) and make it open to the public.

Lack of health datasets has hindered India's public health research, resulting into deep dejection of citizen centric policy and regulatory compliances. Health

data mostly originate from different heterogeneous bodies, reportedly as gross averages; sometimes these are incomplete, inaccurate, or dependent on silos-based practising methodologies.

A central HDA should coordinate with existing data-holders, such as the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare, AYUSH, Department of Health Research, National Rural Health Mission, National Health Portal of India, and with state, private or personal health care providers. This would help boost the development process of new health business models and other healthcare innovations¹.

This agency would assist India to further expand its existing health infrastruc-

ture and to advance the adaptability, affordability and availability of its health supply. The envisaged framework for measuring, reporting, and verification (MRV) is equally vital to India's obligations towards the 'health right' of its people.

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