

## Project Update: August 2014

### Public awareness meeting

The first public awareness meeting with Park residents has been completed. The discussion was focused on information sharing and acquiring indigenous knowledge from the locals. The people were informed about the upcoming project and its objectives. Their social and religious beliefs, and opinions on snakes, were incorporated during the meeting. Since an idea is quite new, people came up with varied responses before supporting this new conservation approach.



Fig: 1 & 2 - Park residents discuss and present their views during the meeting

### Commencement of field survey

A field survey was conducted in upper region of the JDNP from July to August 2014 to assess the snake species diversity. Four different species of snakes belonging to two families were recorded along with their associated variables: *Ovophis monticola*, (Gunther, 1864) *Amphiesma platyceps* (Blyth, 1854) *Ptyas nigromarginata* (Blyth, 1854) and *Trachischium spp* (Blyth, 1854).



Fig: 3, 4, 5 & 6 - *Ovophis monticola*, (Gunther, 1864) *Amphiesma platyceps* (Blyth, 1854) *Ptyas nigromarginata* (Blyth, 1854) and *Trachischium spp* (Blyth, 1854).