



## Red Sand Boa Snake

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### Why in News

Recently, a **red sand boa snake (Eryx johnii)**, worth around ₹1.25 crore, was rescued from

five persons, who were trying to sell it in Madhya Pradesh.



- It is a **rare non-poisonous snake** that is used for making certain medicines, cosmetics and in black magic, and is in huge demand in the international market.
- It is **found in whole of India excluding North-east states** after North-Bengal; also not found in Indian islands.
- Among layman it is famous as "**Two-headed Snake**" due to the presence of very thick tail having rounded end.
- The trade and possession of the red sand boa is an offence under the **Wildlife Protection Act 1972**. The species is listed under **Schedule 4** of the Act. Also, it is listed in **CITES Appendix II**.

**Source: TH**