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RNI No.TNBIL/2021/81709
Daily Morning Newspaper
The Truth

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DRI seizes suspected two litres of King Cobra venom and 3 big cat skins, firearms in Maharashtra

CHENNAI – 29 Nov, 2026 In back-to-back intelligence-led enforcement operations focused on curbing illegal wildlife trade and protecting endangered species, officers of the Directorate of Revenue Intelligence (DRI) dismantled two separate illicit wildlife trafficking networks a ctive around Western Ghat Region in Maharashtra, apprehending six individuals and seizing suspected King Cobra venom alongside big cat skins and a poaching weapon.

Operation Venom Shield: Seizure of 2 litre Cobra Snake Venom in outskirts of Pune

Acting on specific intelligence that a stock trader-turned-social media influencer was trading in illegal venom, DRI officers mounted sustained



surveillance on November 25, 2026, during the Kartik Purnima religious congregation on the outskirts of Pune, where the suspect was scheduled to meet a middleman and a prospective buyer.