

# 'Animals do not seek shelter in open areas'

my story  
NST

**KUALA LUMPUR:** Animals generally seek shelter in dark and secluded areas and will shy away from bright and public places.

Zoo Negara Zoology, Hospital and Veterinarian Services director Dr Mat Naim Ramli yesterday commented on a picture of a snake resting between the window of a car and the visor.

He said the incident was an exception and not the norm.

"These wild animals would look for isolated places, and in this hot weather, they would go to whichever place is nearest to them," he said.

The picture of the snake had gone viral on social media, worrying Netizens that they might encounter such an incident.

"Reptiles usually prefer dark, cool and damp places. So, during the hot weather, they would seek shelter at

places meeting these criteria," Dr Naim said.

"People need to remember that these animals are looking for a place to hide, a safe place for them to rest. It is highly unlikely, however, that they would seek refuge at a place frequented by humans."

If there were situations where wild animals were found in cars, homes or public places, Dr Naim said people should call the authorities, such as the Fire and Rescue Department or Civil Defence Department.

"When confronted by wild ani-

mals, do not try to handle it yourself and please refrain from killing the animals.

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**Dr Mat Naim Ramli**  
Zoo Negara Zoology,  
Hospital and Veterinarian  
Services director

"They would only become dangerous when they feel threatened, so I advise the public from making any sudden moves or provoking them," he said.

A Civil Defence Department spokesman echoed Dr Naim's advice, saying the public should not panic when they encounter a reptile or

other wild animal near them.

"Whatever the situation, one should always keep a safe distance and call the authorities," he said.