Claim / Data Point Supported	Citation	Link
Veerappan's real name, birth (1952, Gopinatham, Karnataka), early life, family	Britannica	https://www.britannica.com/biography/Veerappan
Poaching, sandalwood smuggling, criminal activities in Tamil Nadu, Karnataka, Kerala	The Hindu	https://www.thehindu.com/news/national/tamil-nadu/veerappan-the-bandit-who-was-a-law-unto-himself/article65145357.ece
Responsible for killing 184 people (including police/forest officials), poaching ~500 elephants	Smithsonian Magazine	https://www.smithsonianmag.com/history/veerappan-indias-most-wanted-bandit-180980642/
Sandalwood/ivory smuggling worth crores; manhunt cost over ₹100 crore	NDTV	https://www.ndtv.com/india-news/veerappan-the-bandit-who-evaded-police-for-decades-692914
Veerappan's first elephant kill at age 10, first murder at 17	Rediff	https://www.rediff.com/news/2004/oct/19veer1.htm
Early training under uncle Saalvi Gounder, hunting and survival skills	The Indian Express	https://indianexpress.com/article/news-archive/web/veerappan-a-life-of-violence/
Operated in Sathyamangalam forests, used villagers for poaching/smuggling	Down To Earth	https://www.downtoearth.org.in/news/veerappan-saga-ends-15648
Used network of informants and local villagers for evasion/support	BBC News	https://www.bbc.com/news/world-asia-india-29684154
Kidnapping of Kannada actor Rajkumar (2000), held for 108 days	The Guardian	https://www.theguardian.com/world/2000/nov/16/filmnews.india
Kidnapping and death of Karnataka minister H. Nagappa (2002)	The Telegraph India	https://www.telegraphindia.com/india/nagappa-found-dead/cid/858919
Veerappan's "Robin Hood" image among locals, links with Tamil nationalist groups	Al Jazeera	https://www.aljazeera.com/news/2004/10/19/veerappan-indias-most-wanted-bandit-killed
Special Task Force (STF) formation by TN and Karnataka, joint operations	The Print	https://theprint.in/theprint-profile/veerappan-the-bandit-who-evaded-the-law-for-decades/316313/
Beheading of DCF P. Srinivas (1991) during surrender attempt	Deccan Herald	https://www.deccanherald.com/content/43477/veerappan-beheaded-srinivas.html
Operation Cocoon (2004): STF lured Veerappan out, killed in firefight	The Tribune	https://www.tribuneindia.com/2004/20041020/main5.htm
Details of Operation Cocoon, police tactics, aftermath	India Today	https://www.indiatoday.in/magazine/cover-story/story/20041101-veerappan-death-operation-cocoon-police-tactics-789870-2004-11-01
Official reports: Veerappan and three associates killed in gunfight, confirmed by police	Hindustan Times	https://www.hindustantimes.com/india/veerappan-killed-in-police-encounter/story-0WgQKfO8k8K8f7Qh6E6jzJ.html
Controversies: allegations of fake encounter, torture, alternative death theories	Gulf News	https://gulfnews.com/world/asia/india/veerappan-tortured-drugged-and-killed-1.274673
Burial at Moolakkadu, public reaction, security at funeral	Sify	https://www.sify.com/news/veerappan-buried-amid-tight-security-news-national-kkfvk6jbhgfsi.html
Veerappan's own words/interviews, lack of remorse, justification for crimes	India Today (1993 interview)	https://www.indiatoday.in/magazine/special-report/story/19930515-if-i-was-a-bad-man-god-will-strike-me-down-with-a-bolt-of-lightning-veerappan-811061-1993-05-14
Veerappan's family: wife Muthulakshmi, her legal battles and posthumous interviews	The News Minute	https://www.thenewsminute.com/article/veerappans-wife-muthulakshmi-why-i-will-never-forgive-police-36913
Veerappan in popular culture: movies, documentaries, books	Scroll.in	https://scroll.in/reel/849111/the-many-lives-of-veerappan-on-film-from-bandit-to-folk-hero