

# New distribution record of Bhupathi's Purple Frog from Agamalai Hills, Western Ghats, India

The genus *Nasikabatrachus* Biju & Bossuyt, 2003 comprise two species, *Nasikabatrachus sahyadrensis* known from the western slopes of the Western Ghats, India (Zachariah et al. 2012) and *N. bhupathi* (Janani et al. 2017) known only from the eastern slopes of Watrap Range, Sriviliputhur Grizzled Giant Squirrel Wildlife Sanctuary, Tamil Nadu. In this note, I report *Nasikabatrachus* cf. *bhupathi* tadpoles from a previously unknown location in the Western Ghats of India.

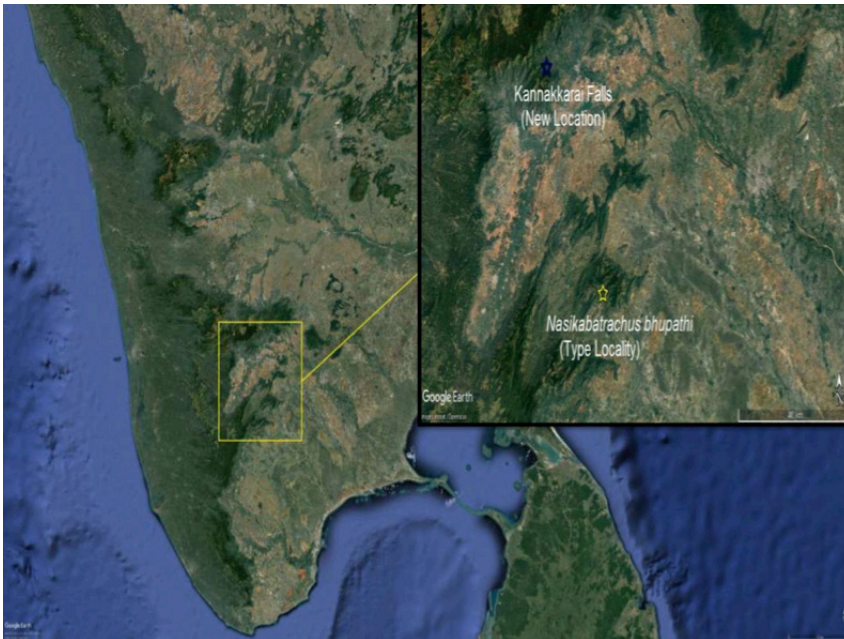
During the bird watching trip on 7 October 2012, I sighted six tadpoles of *Nasikabatrachus* cf. *bhupathi* attached to rocks of fast flowing stream in the Kannakkarai Falls (10.131254N, 77.437499E, 550 m), Agamalai Hills, Theni, Tamil Nadu, India. The surrounding habitat is riparian forest with private estates. The currently reported location is in the eastern



View of Kannakkarai Falls, Agamalai, Theni.



Tadpoles of *Nasikabatrachus* cf. *bhupathi* in Kannakkarai Falls, Agamalai, Theni.



**Distribution map of *Nasikabatrachus cf. bhupathi*.**

slopes of the Western Ghats, approximately 50 km aerial distance from the type locality of *Nasikabatrachus bhupathi*.

The currently reported location is one of the famous weekend celebration sites in this region that faces serious threats and the stream is also used for washing clothes. Detailed study is warranted to understand the distribution and threats of *Nasikabatrachus cf. bhupathi* in the eastern slopes of the Western Ghats.

#### References

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#### A. Kalaimani

Care Earth Trust, No.4, 20th Street, Thillaiganga Nagar, Nanganallur, Chennai, Tamil Nadu 600061, India.  
Email: manikalai16@yahoo.com

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