



Observation of Pierre’s Wart Frog from Purulia, West Bengal, India

Pierre’s Wart Frog *Minervarya pierrei* was observed in the Baghmundi Village & Ajodhya Hills of Purulia District, West Bengal, India. This is a regional documentation of the *M. pierrei* and this note would contribute to knowing the species’ regional level distribution.

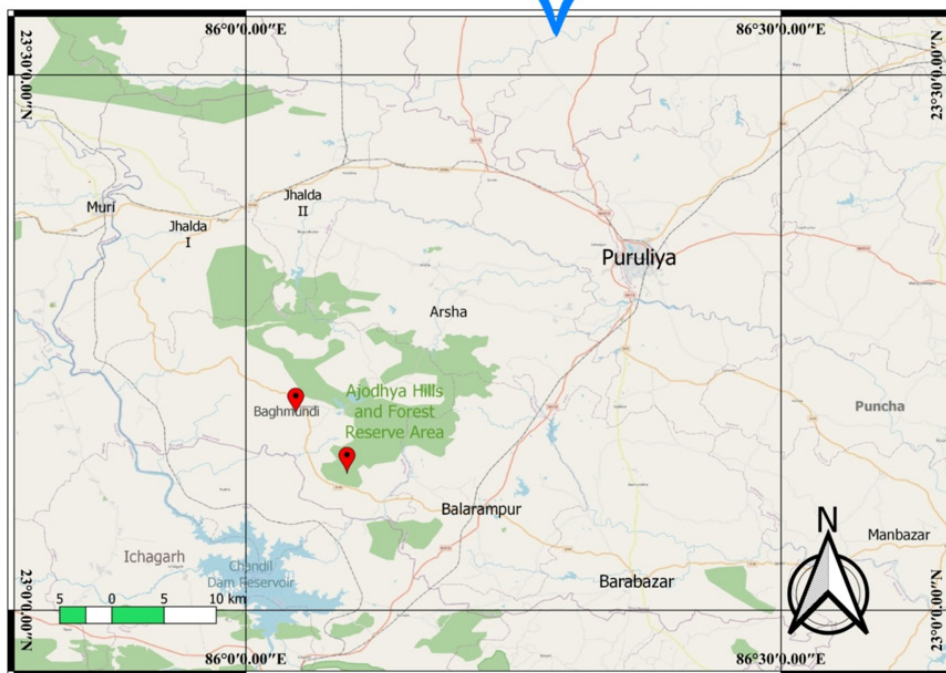
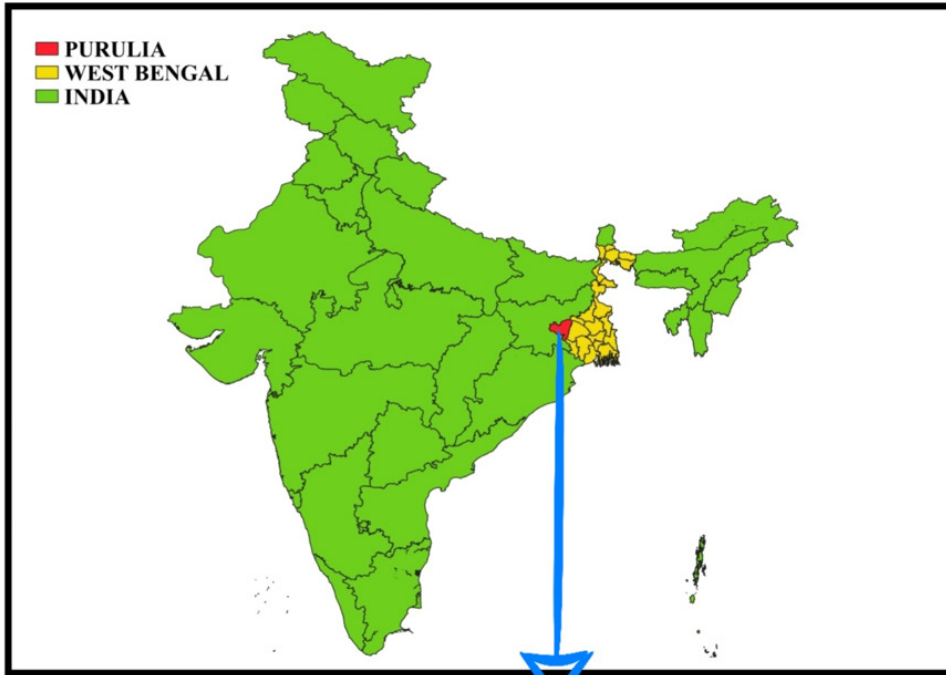
The genus *Minervarya* consists of 31 species at present including our observed species *M. pierrei* (Frost 2021). The species mostly prefers aquatics, woods along



Pierre’s Wart Frog *M. pierrei* sighted in Baghmundi, West Bengal, India.



Dorsal view of Pierre’s Wart Frog *M. pierrei*.



Location of the sightings of Pierre's Wart Frog *M. pierrei* from Purulia.

rivers, and grassland habitats (Mathew & Sen 2010). It has been evaluated as Least Concern by the IUCN Red List (Shrestha & Ohler 2016).

This frog is reported from Assam, Manipur, Nagaland, Meghalaya, Mizoram,

Arunachal Pradesh, West Bengal, Bihar, Uttar Pradesh, Uttarakhand (Saikia & Lyngdoh 2014) and Madhya Pradesh (Prasad et al. 2020).

The species was identified on the basis of the key provided by Mathew & Sen (2010) such

as pointed head, snout tip jutting out above the lower jaw, laterally placed nostril which is closer to snout tip, presence of a narrow supra tympanic fold, the tympanum is not very distinct due to spotted colouration, moderate forelimbs, 3/4th webbed short



hind limbs, a cream coloured mid dorsal snout-vent stripe with reddish spots interrupt inter orbital band and the presence of tiny pale warts in the loreal region, loreal region of *M. pierrei* is slightly concave.

The species was observed during our herpetological survey and photographed from Baghmundi Village (23.11°N, 86.02°E, 264 m) on 8 March 2021, at around 1932 h using a Nikon D5600 camera and a Nikon 70–300 mm lens with a macro filter. Also, it was previously observed on 19 February 2021, around 1220 h in the Ajodhya Hills (23.08°N, 86.05°E, 285 m).

During our survey, the specimens were not harmed nor collected at both times of the observation. In Baghmundi Village the species was observed near human habitation (rural as well as densely populated city area) whereas in Ajodhya Hills the species was observed in a dry and deciduous forest area with a small water passage surrounded by rocks and dry leaves.

As no proper documentation on the amphibian diversity is present from the region, this study will be helpful to understand the regional level distribution of *M. pierrei*. Also, this study can be used for conservation purpose and for future documentation on amphibian diversity from this region.

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