

FISH FAUNA OF HYDERABAD AND ITS ENVIRONS

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web supplement

ABSTRACT

The fish diversity of Hyderabad and its environs is reviewed through collection and literature survey in this paper. Sixty-five species of fishes belonging to 36 genera in 13 families spread over five orders have been recorded in nine tanks in and around Hyderabad. Common names, number of material housed and examined along with distribution are published.

KEYWORDS

Checklist, Fishes, Hyderabad, India, review

Barman (1993) reported the occurrence of 158 species in 68 genera belonging to 27 families of 10 orders in Andhra Pradesh. Rahimullah (1943) reported 36 species of fishes in 19 genera under eight families of five orders from Hyderabad and its vicinity. In the present study, 65 species belonging to 36 genera spread over 13 families of five orders have been reported by the author including 19 species reported by earlier workers. Barman (1993) dealt with fish fauna of Andhra Pradesh, but not Hyderabad in detail, which has got a number of water bodies. The lakes in Hyderabad and its surroundings, are getting eutrophied slowly for the last 50 years and no attempt had been made to study the fauna of this environment after Rahimullah (1943).

Hyderabad has approximately 170 major and minor water bodies in its metropolitan limits. Hyderabad City includes Hyderabad and Ranga Reddy districts and parts of Medak District. The most important river is Musi, rising in Ananthagiri Hills and passing through the city and draining into the Krishna River near Wazirabad in Nalgonda District. Manjira Lake is situated in the northwestern side of the city. The city is unique in having a very rich fishery potential especially freshwater fishes due to the presence of a number of major and minor water bodies in its environs.

The Musi River flowing over Deccan Plateau is one of the major tributaries of river Krishna, which originates from the Ananthagiri Hills of Ranga Reddy district with the catchment area of 11,170km². River Musi is heavily contaminated with domestic sewage and industrial effluents loaded with toxic chemicals and metals. The river traverses a distance of about 15km through the heart of Hyderabad City and lies between 17°21'-17°24'N and 78°25'-78°32'E. There is no regular flow of water in the river from upstream due to the construction of reservoirs like Osmansagar and Himayatsagar, which are the major sources of supply of drinking water to the city.

A perusal of literature on the fish fauna of Andhra Pradesh shows that several works have been carried out on the subject by Day (1875, 1876, 1877, 1878, 1889), Misra (1938, 1962, 1976), Jayaram (1977, 1981), Rao (1976), Chacko (1949), Chacko *et al.* (1952), David (1963), Dutt and Murthy (1971, 1976), Dutt and

Reddy (1979), Dutt and Sharma (1979), Jerdon (1849), Jhingran (1983), Mahmood and Rahimullah (1947), Menon (1999), Murthy (1977), Rahimullah (1943 & 1944), Sykes (1838), and Barman (1993).

Rao and Reddy (1984) studied the fish fauna of Hussainsagar and brief attempts on the fauna of some water bodies in Hyderabad have been contributed by Chandrasekhar (1996) on Saroornagar Lake and Kodarkar and Chandrasekhar (1995) on Himayatsagar, Osmansagar, Hussainsagar, Saroornagar Lake and Mir Alam Tank. Some considerable efforts have been undertaken by Devi (1988) on ecotoxicology of fishes of Hyderabad, and fish kills by Chandrasekhar and Kodarkar (1994), Hingorani *et al.* (1973), Muley (1987), Rao *et al.* (1991), Siddiqi *et al.* (1991) on fish mortality of fishes in Hyderabad.

The literature on the fish fauna of Hyderabad and its environs shows that a considerable attempt has been made by Rahimullah (1943 & 1944) who has reported 36 species (from Himayatsagar, Osmansagar, Hussainsagar, Mir Alam Tank and Ibrahimpatnam Cheruvu), but in recent years this has become a practically unexplored endeavour as most of the water bodies in the area are polluted due to industrialisation and urbanisation.

The study was carried out from the fish collections from the water bodies of Hyderabad and its neighborhood and also from literature available in Freshwater Biological Station (FBS), Zoological Survey of India (ZSI), Hyderabad. These water bodies include Hussainsagar, Himayatsagar, Osmansagar, Mir Alam tank, Ibrahimpatnam Cheruvu, Indirasagar, Manjira Lake, Saroornagar Lake and Shameerpet Tank.

MATERIAL AND METHODS

The present work was undertaken to study the specimens collected since 1979 by the scientists of Freshwater Biological Station (FBS), Zoological Survey India (ZSI), Hyderabad, available in the station and also from publications of Rahimullah (1943) and Barman (1993). The study was limited to the collections of the water bodies located approximately within 60km radius from the centre point of Hyderabad City (Abids). These water bodies include Himayatsagar, Osmansagar, Hussainsagar, Ibrahimpatnam Cheruvu, Mir Alam Tank, Saroornagar Lake, Indirasagar, Manjira Lake, and Shameerpet Tank (Supplement^w).

A total number of 3,523 examples were examined. Details of the material examined comprising registration numbers (in ascending order), dates of collections, locality coinciding with registration numbers, sizes/its ranges expressed in centimetres and number of examples are given. During the course of preservation, fins of some of the fishes were damaged and hence their photographs do not depict their fins completely. Although *Macroglythys*

^w See supplementary notes on water bodies at www.zoosprint.org

pancalus was not recorded from these collections, its photograph has been taken from the collections made earlier from Kolleru Lake in Andhra Pradesh.

Out of the below 65 species, *Oreochromis nilotica* (Linnaeus), is not available in India. But Fisheries Department, Government of Andhra Pradesh has imported the specimens from Bangkok and introduced it in some fish ponds in the twin cities of Hyderabad and Secunderabad -- fish ponds at Lower Tank Bund, Centre for Cellular and Molecular Biology (CCMB) and P.G. Science College at Saifabad.

In this paper a checklist of species of fishes along with their state-wise distribution and status is given in the printed version, while details of the water bodies in and around Hyderabad, and the details such as common names and material examined are included in the web supplement^w.

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^w See supplementary notes on water bodies in and around Hyderabad City and more information on the collected species at www.zoosprint.org

Table 1. Freshwater fishes in and around Hyderabad

<p>Order: Osteoglossiformes Suborder: Notopteroidei Family: Notopteridae <i>Notopterus notopterus</i> (Pallas) <u>Distribution:</u> India, Nepal, Pakistan, Bangladesh, Burma, Malaya, Thailand Indonesia. <u>Status:</u> Common</p>	<p><i>Cirrhinus mrigala mrigala</i> (Hamilton-Buchanan) <u>Distribution:</u> India, Pakistan, Bangladesh and Burma. <u>Status:</u> Uncommon.</p>	<p><i>Puntius sarana sarana</i> (Hamilton-Buchanan) <u>Distribution:</u> India: Throughout north of Krishna river system; Pakistan, Afghanistan, Nepal, Bangladesh, Bhutan. <u>Status:</u> Common.</p>
<p>Order: Cypriniformes Family: Cyprinidae Subfamily: Danioninae <i>Barilius barna</i> (Hamilton-Buchanan) <u>Distribution:</u> India: Assam, Himachal Pradesh, Uttar Pradesh, Bihar, West Bengal, Meghalaya, Arunachal Pradesh; Nepal, Bangladesh and Burma. <u>Status:</u> Uncommon.</p>	<p><i>Cirrhinus reba</i> (Hamilton-Buchanan) <u>Distribution:</u> India, Pakistan, Nepal and Bangladesh. <u>Status:</u> Uncommon.</p>	<p><i>Puntius sophore</i> (Hamilton-Buchanan) <u>Distribution:</u> Throughout India, Pakistan, Nepal, Bangladesh, Burma and Yunnan. <u>Status:</u> Common</p>
<p><i>Barilius bendelisis</i> (Hamilton-Buchanan) <u>Distribution:</u> Throughout India (except Kerala), Pakistan, Nepal and Bangladesh <u>Status:</u> Rare</p>	<p><i>Cyprinus carpio</i> Linnaeus <u>Distribution:</u> Naturally found in China, Korea, Japan, Taiwan, Europe, America; introduced in South India from Sri Lanka in 1939. <u>Status:</u> Common.</p>	<p><i>Puntius terio</i> (Hamilton-Buchanan) <u>Distribution:</u> India: Assam, Orissa, West Bengal, Punjab and Andhra Pradesh; Bangladesh, Pakistan. <u>Remarks:</u> This species is new record to Hyderabad and its environs. <u>Status:</u> Rare</p>
<p><i>Salmostoma bacaila</i> (Hamilton-Buchanan) <u>Distribution:</u> India: Ganga, Brahmaputra and Mahanadi river systems; Bangladesh and Nepal. <u>Remarks:</u> This species is new record to Hyderabad and its environs. <u>Status:</u> Common.</p>	<p><i>Osteobrama belangeri</i> (Valenciennes) <u>Distribution:</u> India : Manipur and south India; Burma and Yunnan (China). <u>Status:</u> Uncommon.</p>	<p><i>Puntius ticto</i> (Hamilton-Buchanan) <u>Distribution:</u> Throughout India, Pakistan, Nepal, Bangladesh, Sri Lanka, Burma, Thailand. <u>Status:</u> Common.</p>
<p><i>Salmostoma clupeioides</i> (Bloch) <u>Distribution:</u> India: Eastern and Western ghats, Maharashtra, Madhya Pradesh and Gujarat; Burma. <u>Status:</u> Rare</p>	<p><i>Osteobrama cotio cotio</i> (Hamilton-Buchanan) <u>Distribution:</u> India: Assam, West Bengal, Bihar, Madhya Pradesh, Uttar Pradesh and Punjab; Bangladesh. <u>Status:</u> Uncommon.</p>	<p><i>Catla catla</i> (Hamilton-Buchanan) <u>Distribution:</u> Throughout India, Pakistan, Nepal, Bangladesh, Sri Lanka, Thailand. <u>Status:</u> Common.</p>
<p><i>Salmostoma untrachi</i> (Day) <u>Distribution:</u> India: Mahanadi river system in Orissa and Cauvery River system in Andhra Pradesh. <u>Status:</u> Uncommon.</p>	<p><i>Osteobrama vigorsii</i> (Sykes) <u>Distribution:</u> India: Orissa, Maharashtra, Madhya Pradesh and Godavari and Krishna river systems. <u>Status:</u> Uncommon.</p>	<p><i>Labeo boggut</i> (Sykes) <u>Distribution:</u> Northern India and upto Cauvery river system; Pakistan. <u>Status:</u> Rare</p>
<p><i>Amblypharyngodon mola</i> (Hamilton-Buchanan) <u>Distribution:</u> Throughout India except probably Kerala; Bangladesh and Burma. <u>Status:</u> Common.</p>	<p><i>Thynnichthys sandkhol</i> (Sykes) <u>Distribution:</u> India: Mahanadi, Godavari, Krishna and Tungabhadra river systems. <u>Status:</u> Rare</p>	<p><i>Labeo calbasu</i> (Hamilton-Buchanan) <u>Distribution:</u> Throughout India, Pakistan, Burma, Bangladesh, Nepal, Thailand and Yunnan. <u>Status:</u> Uncommon.</p>
<p><i>Chela cachius</i> (Hamilton) <u>Distribution:</u> Throughout India <u>Status:</u> Uncommon.</p>	<p><i>Gonoproktopterus kolus</i> (Sykes) <u>Distribution:</u> Deccan and Mysore Plateau in Krishna, Godavari and Cauvery rivers. <u>Status:</u> Uncommon.</p>	<p><i>Labeo fimbriatus</i> (Bloch) <u>Distribution:</u> India: Punjab, Uttar Pradesh, Orissa, Madhya Pradesh, Maharashtra, Gujarat and South India; Nepal, Burma, Pakistan. <u>Status:</u> Uncommon</p>
<p><i>Rasbora daniconius</i> (Hamilton-Buchanan) <u>Distribution:</u> India, Pakistan, Sri Lanka, Bangladesh, Burma and Mekong. <u>Status:</u> Common</p>	<p><i>Puntius amphibius</i> (Valenciennes) <u>Distribution:</u> India: peninsular India upto Orissa and Rajasthan; Sri Lanka. <u>Status:</u> Uncommon.</p>	<p><i>Labeo potail</i> (Sykes) <u>Distribution:</u> India: Maharashtra, Andhra Pradesh and Deccan. Species occurring in Godavari and Krishna river systems; this species has been designated as threatened species of India. <u>Status:</u> Rare.</p>
<p><i>Rasbora rasbora</i> (Hamilton-Buchanan) <u>Distribution:</u> Gangetic provinces and coromandal coast in India; Bangladesh, Burma and Thailand. <u>Status:</u> Uncommon</p>	<p><i>Puntius cholera</i> (Hamilton-Buchanan) <u>Distribution:</u> Throughout India, Pakistan, Nepal, Bangladesh, Burma and Sri Lanka. <u>Status:</u> Common</p>	<p><i>Labeo rohita</i> (Hamilton-Buchanan) <u>Distribution:</u> Northern and central India; Bangladesh; Terai region of Nepal, Burma. <u>Status:</u> Common.</p>
<p><i>Brachydanio rerio</i> (Hamilton-Buchanan) <u>Distribution:</u> Throughout India, Pakistan, Nepal, Bangladesh and Burma <u>Status:</u> Uncommon.</p>	<p><i>Puntius conchoni</i> (Hamilton-Buchanan) <u>Distribution:</u> India: Ganga, Brahmaputra, Mahanadi river systems in Uttar Pradesh; Bihar, West Bengal, Orissa, Andhra Pradesh; Pakistan, Nepal, Bengal. <u>Status:</u> Rare</p>	<p><i>Labeo sidensis</i> (Hamilton-Buchanan) <u>Distribution:</u> India: Hardwar (Uttar Pradesh), Punjab and Poona (Maharashtra); Pakistan: Sind. <u>Remarks:</u> This species is a new record to Hyderabad and its environs. <u>Status:</u> Uncommon</p>
<p><i>Esomus danricus</i> (Hamilton-Buchanan) <u>Distribution:</u> India: North India, Andhra Pradesh, Tamil Nadu; Pakistan, Nepal, Bangladesh, Burma, Sri Lanka, Malaya and Thailand. <u>Status:</u> Common</p>	<p><i>Puntius dorsalis</i> (Jerdon) <u>Distribution:</u> Cauvery and Krishna River systems in South India, Sri Lanka. <u>Status:</u> Uncommon.</p>	<p>Family: Garrinae <i>Garra gotyla stenorrhynchus</i> (Jerdon) <u>Distribution:</u> India: Cauvery and Krishna river systems <u>Status:</u> Uncommon.</p>
<p>Sub-family: Cyprininae <i>Tor khudree</i> (Sykes) <u>Distribution:</u> India: Madhya Pradesh, Deccan, peninsular India; Sri Lanka. <u>Status:</u> Rare</p>	<p><i>Puntius filamentosus</i> (Valenciennes) <u>Distribution:</u> India: Goa, Karnataka, Kerala and Tamil Nadu; Sri Lanka, Burma and Thailand. <u>Status:</u> Uncommon.</p>	<p><i>Garra mullya</i> (Sykes) <u>Distribution:</u> Throughout India except Assam and Himalaya. <u>Status:</u> Common.</p>

Family: Cobitidae**Sub-family: Cobitinae****Lepidocephalus guntea (Hamilton-Buchanan)**

Distribution: Northern India: Ganga and Brahmaputra river systems; Nepal, Bangladesh, Pakistan, Burma.

Remarks: This species is new record to Hyderabad and its environs.

Status: Common

Order: Siluriformes**Family: Bagridae****Sub-family: Bagrinae****Aorichthys aor (Hamilton-Buchanan)**

Distribution: India: Northern India upto the Krishna river system in south; Pakistan, Nepal, Bangladesh, Upper Burma.

Status: Uncommon.

Aorichthys seenghala (Sykes)

Distribution: Throughout India; Afghanistan, Pakistan, Nepal, Bangladesh.

Status: Rare

Mystus bleekeri (Day)

Distribution: Throughout India, Pakistan, Nepal, Bangladesh, Burma, Malaya.

Status: Common

Mystus cavasius (Hamilton-Buchanan)

Distribution: India, Pakistan, Sri Lanka, Nepal, Bangladesh, Burma, Thailand

Status: Uncommon.

Mystus vittatus (Bloch)

Distribution: Throughout India, Pakistan, Nepal, Bangladesh, Burma, Sri Lanka, Thailand, and Malaya.

Status: Common.

Family: Siluridae**Wallago attu (Bloch and Schneider)**

Distribution: India, Pakistan, Bangladesh, Burma, Sri Lanka, Thailand, Indonesia.

Status: Common.

Ompok bimaculatus (Bloch)

Distribution: India, Pakistan, Nepal, Bangladesh, Sri Lanka, Burma, Thailand, Java, Sumatra, Borneo, China.

Status: Uncommon.

Ompok malabaricus (Valenciennes)

Distribution: India: Goa and Kerala.

Status: Rare.

Family: Clariidae**Clarias batrachus (Linnaeus)**

Distribution: India, Pakistan, Nepal, Bangladesh, Burma, Indonesia, Singapore, Philippines.

Status: Common.

Family: Heteropneustidae**Heteropneustes fossilis (Bloch)**

Distribution: India, Pakistan, Sri Lanka, Nepal, Bangladesh, Burma, Thailand, Laos.

Status: Common

Super order: Acanthopterygii**Order: Cyprinodontiformes****Family: Poeciliidae****Sub-family: Poeciliinae****Gambusia affinis (Baird & Girard)**

Distribution: Introduced in several states of India; Pakistan, Burma, Sri Lanka, Southeastern U.S.A.

Status: Uncommon

Order: Perciformes**Sub-order: Channoidei****Family: Channidae****Channa marulius (Hamilton-Buchanan)**

Distribution: India, Sri Lanka, Bangladesh, Nepal, Burma, Thailand and China.

Status: Uncommon.

Channa orientalis Bloch & Schneider

Distribution: India, Pakistan, Nepal, Bangladesh, Burma and Sri Lanka.

Status: Uncommon.

Channa punctatus (Bloch)

Distribution: India, Afghanistan, Pakistan, Sri Lanka, Nepal, Bangladesh, Burma, China.

Status: Common.

Channa striatus (Bloch)

Distribution: India, Pakistan, Sri Lanka, Bangladesh, Nepal, Burma, Malay Archipelago, Thailand, South China.

Status: Common.

Sub-order: Labroidei**Family: Cichlidae****Etroplus maculatus (Bloch)**

Distribution: India: Tamil Nadu, Kerala, south Karnataka; Sri Lanka.

Status: Common.

Etroplus suratensis (Bloch)

Distribution: India: Orissa, Andhra Pradesh, Tamilnadu and Kerala; Sri Lanka.

Status: Uncommon.

Oreochromis mossambica (Peters)

Distribution: India, Pakistan, Sri Lanka.

Status: Uncommon.

Oreochromis nilotica (Linnaeus)

This species is not available in India. But Fisheries Department, Government of Andhra Pradesh has imported the specimens from Bangkok and introduced in some fish ponds in twin cities of Hyderabad and Secunderabad viz., fish ponds at Lower Tank Bund, Centre for Cellular and Molecular Biology (CCMB), P.G. Science College, Saifabad and others.

Sub-order: Gobiodei**Family: Gobiidae****Sub-family: Gobiinae****Glossogobius giuris (Hamilton-Buchanan)**

Distribution: Indo-west Pacific.

Status: Common.

Sub-order: Anabantoidea**Family: Belontiidae****Sub-family: Trichogasterinae****Colisa fasciatus (Schneider)**

Distribution: India, Pakistan, Nepal, Bangladesh, Burma.

Status: Common.

Family: Trichogasterinae**Osphronemus goramy Lacepede**

Distribution: It is an exotic fish, introduced in different parts of India; Pakistan, Bangladesh, Ceylon, Mauritius, Malaya, Malay-Archipelago, Siam, China, Philippines, Australia.

Status: Uncommon.

Order: Synbranchiformes**Sub-order: Mastacembeloidei****Family: Mastacembelidae****Sub-family: Mastacembelinae****Macrogonathus pancalus Hamilton-Buchanan**

Distribution: India, Pakistan and Bangladesh.

Status: Uncommon.

Mastacembalus armatus (Lacepede)

Distribution: India, Pakistan, Bangladesh, Burma, Sri Lanka, Malaya, Nepal, Thailand to south China.

Status: Uncommon

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