

MISCELLANEOUS PUBLICATION  
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# Records of the Zoological Survey of India

**Bibliography of the Indian  
Sundarbans with special  
reference to fauna**

**N. C. Nandi  
A. Misra**

**Issued by the Director  
Zoological Survey of India, Calcutta**

**RECORDS  
OF THE  
ZOOLOGICAL SURVEY OF INDIA**

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**BIBLIOGRAPHY OF THE INDIAN SUNDARBANS WITH  
SPECIAL REFERENCE TO FAUNA**

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**सत्यमेव जयते**

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## INTRODUCTION

### 1. The Sundarbans Region :

The marshy deltaic bulge of the river Ganga is referred to as the Sundarbans. It lies between 20°31' and 22°38' North and 88°50' and 90°28' East. In its present position in the State of West Bengal, the Sundarbans extends about 110 km from the river Hooghly to the river Hariabhangha and runs inland to a distance of 90-120 km stretching over the district South 24-Parganas. It is bounded by Nadia (at present North 24-Parganas) district in the north, the Bay of Bengal in the south, Bangladesh in the east and the river Hooghly in the West.

The Sundarbans has a total area of 9,629 sq. km of which 4,264 sq. km is the forest area. Sundarban Tiger Reserve, the largest Tiger Project in India occupies 2585 sq. km of the forested Sundarbans. The rest is reclaimed, populated and comprised of 1093 villages and 3 towns having 19 Development Blocks and 15 Police Stations viz., Sagar, Namkhana, Pathar Pratima, Kakdwip, Kultali, Mathurapur (Block I & II), Canning (Block I & II), Basanti, Gosaba, Haroa, Sandeshkhali Block I & II), Hingalganj, Hasnabad and Minakhan.

### 2. Importance of the Sundarbans Ecosystem :

Sundarban ecosystem is famous for its luxuriant mangroves and unique wild life resources. It has attracted the attention and naturalists, from all over the world for its remarkable assemblage of floristic and faunistic components. The magnificent mangrove forest area has recently been declared as "National Park" for the conservation of endangered wildlife and important mangrove species. The region is being used for a number of projects involving Tiger, Crocodile, Turtles, Birds, Fishes and Shrimps. Among these, the Sundarban Tiger Reserve, Sajnakhali Bird Sanctuary and Bhagabatpur Crocodile Project have already been renowned.

Furthermore, the Hooghly-Matlah estuarine complex occupies a foremost place as regards its fishery resources. The fishery potential of the region is substantial and forms a major source of protein for the entire southern Bengal and partially meets the demand of Calcutta markets. The prawn fisheries of the area have been earning considerable amount of foreign exchange for the country and the Bagda prawns (*Penaeus monodon* Fabricius) are regarded as the "living dollars" of the Sundarbans.

### 3. Importance, coverage and scope of the Bibliography :

**Importance :** Bibliographies or reference tools are very useful for dissemination of knowledge and for supplying informations related to the country. To the researchers and scientists of any discipline to-day bibliographies are not only valuable but also indispensable. In fact, a good bibliography is a boon to the serious researchers.

Keeping in mind its usefulness the authors have tried to compile relevant publications on Sundarbans so that this may, hopefully, provide an increasing awareness of the Sundarban environments and stimulate greater impetus for further specific research on the subject. Comprehensive bibliographies are very rare on a regional basis and hence the present *Bibliography of the Indian Sundarbans* is communicated.

**Coverage :** The coverage extends to Hydrology, Geology, Anthropology, Pollution and Flora besides General Studies and Group wise Faunal references. It is primarily intended for the zoologists but it would be useful to a wider section of scientists/researchers including sociologists and soil-chemists.

All available references on zoological researches and faunal studies originating from the Sundarbans and Hooghly Matlah estuaries have been incorporated. Literature pertaining to fishery science have been dealt under respective faunal groups. Some references on works originated from the adjacent environs viz., Digha, Falta, Salt Lake etc. have also been included. Though these references are beyond the Sundarbans limit, it is listed for awareness of the works done in the nearby environments which might have some bearings on the Sundarbans fauna. It is believed that inclusion of such references will be appreciated.

The existing industrial complexes located upstream along the bank of the Hooghly river have been identified as the major source of pollution and degradation of the river Ganga. The Planning Commission has, therefore, embarked on an ambitious scheme to monitor and survey the status of the river Ganges over the entire stretch of 2,525 km. from Gongotri to Gangasagar at Sagar Island, Sundarbans. The published works on the subject around Calcutta and down stream have been collated to promote proper management and monitoring of the coastal zone environment of the Ganges delta.

Ph. D. theses based on materials collected from the Sundarbans have also been incorporated as far as possible. These theses are in general, yet to be published but contained much informations in their specialised fields. The bibliography also includes manuscript accepted

for publication and such references are marked "In press" in parantheses after the author.

*Scope* : The bibliography includes literature mainly published upto the end of 1984. But, it has also been possible to include works published during 1985 through personal contact with the specialists and authors for their list of publications on Sundarbans. Every possible efforts were made to incorporate all the references on zoological researches dealing with different aspects of fauna as well as fishery. But this may not hold good for other subjects. Still, one would get enough informations to begin with his field of specialisation.

#### 4. Bibliographical sources :

The main bibliographical sources are the following, in an approximate decreasing order of importance :

—Bibliography of Indian Zoology, Zoological Survey of India (ZSI), Calcutta, Vols. 1-20, 1958-1977 (1984).

—Annual Reports of the Zoological Survey of India, Calcutta, for the year 1916-17 to 1980-81.

—Annual Report of the Central Inland Fisheries Reserch Institute (CIFRI), Barrackpore, for the year 1959-1984.

—List of publications of the Central Inland Fisheries Research Institute, Barrackpore, Bulletin No. 22, pp. 1-101 (1948-1976, by Anjali De) and pp. 1-103 (1977-1984, Anonymous) (Mimeo).

—Personal contact with the scientists/researchers requesting for their list of publications on Sundarbans.

—Bibliographical publications listed under section : Bibliography (Please vide infra).

—Consultation of Libraries at Calcutta (ZSI) and Barrackpore (CIFRI) for books and journals having articles/informations and/or references on Sundarbans.

—Checking the references published in the Symposium on Biology, Utilization and Conservation of Mangroves, Kolhapur, etc.

#### 5. Concluding Remarks :

The bibliography covers 1191 references distributed under 30 sections. Attempts have been made to include as much informations as possible that has got a direct or an indirect relevance to the complex ecosystem of the Sundarbans. Still, no claim is made that the bibliography is a complete one. A large number of references could not be recognised from their titles though related to Sundarbans. In such doubtful cases efforts have been made to consult the original publications as and when available. But certain inaccessible and unavailable refer-

ences could not be consulted in original. This might have evoked possible errors and omissions of some references. We would, therefore, request to the readers to invite our attention to such errors and omissions so that, subsequently, an improved and updated bibliography may be published.

Several projects and programmes of work have been initiated by a number of governmental and non-governmental agencies to have a comprehensive knowledge of the total complex of coastal, estuarine and mangrove ecosystems of the Sundarbans and its surrounding areas. Of these, the Department of Science and Technology (DST) project undertaken by the Department of Marine Science, Calcutta University on Sedimentology, Microbial Ecology, Hydrobiology (Plankton and Benthos), Productivity Studies and Phytochemistry of Mangroves is noteworthy.

The increasing interest in the diverse fields of research by an odd assortment of researchers viz., naturalists, zoologists, botanists, microbiologists, chemists, geologists and anthropologists etc. have generated an enormous volume of literature spread over in various national and international periodicals. It is hoped that by bringing the scattered references together, the present compilation would promote further interest in these areas of exciting researches along well-defined lines. If this volume can indeed inspire such advances in research, then the authors will be well-rewarded.

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## ABBREVIATIONS

Abbreviations used in the bibliography are illustrated for ready reference as follows :

<b>B A R C</b>	<b>Bhaba Atomic Research Centre</b>
<b>C A D C</b>	<b>Comprehensive Area Development Corporation</b>
<b>C B I P</b>	<b>Central Board of Irrigation and Power</b>
<b>C I F R I</b>	<b>Central Inland Fisheries Research Institute</b>
<b>C M D A</b>	<b>Calcutta Metropolitan Development Authority</b>
<b>C M F R I</b>	<b>Central Marine Fisheries Research Institute</b>
<b>C P H E R I</b>	<b>Central Public Health Engineering Research Institute</b>
<b>C R R I</b>	<b>Central Rice Research Institute</b>
<b>C S I R</b>	<b>Council of Scientific and Industrial Research</b>
<b>C S S R I</b>	<b>Central Soil Salinity Research Institute</b>
<b>E M S I</b>	<b>Electron Microscopic Society of India</b>
<b>F A O</b>	<b>Food and Agricultural Organisation</b>
<b>I A R I</b>	<b>Indian Agricultural Research Institute</b>
<b>I C A R</b>	<b>Indian Council of Agricultural Research</b>
<b>I C O P A</b>	<b>International Congress of Parasitology</b>
<b>I P F C</b>	<b>Indo-Pacific Fisheries Council</b>
<b>I R D</b>	<b>Integrated Rural Development</b>
<b>I R R N</b>	<b>International Rice research Newsletter</b>
<b>I S I</b>	<b>Indian Statistical Institute</b>
<b>M B A I</b>	<b>Marine Biological Association of India</b>
<b>N E E R I</b>	<b>National Environmental Engineering Research Institute</b>
<b>N I O</b>	<b>National Institute of Oceanography</b>
<b>U N D P</b>	<b>United Nations Development Programme</b>
<b>U N E S C O</b>	<b>United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organisation</b>
<b>Z S I</b>	<b>Zoological Survey of India</b>

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## ERRATA

Page	Line	Instead of	Read
5	9	brakishwater	brackish water
8	7	to effect	its effect
9	16	Hoogly	Hooghly
11	12	MANDAL, 1982	MANDAL, L. N. 1982
12	17	apprisal	appraisal
15	11	MUKHERJEE, R. N.	MUKHERJEE, R. K.
18	22	MUKHOPADHYAY, M. D.	MUKHOPADHYAY, M. K.
25	3	N 10	NIO
	6	CHOUDHURY, H. J.	CHOWDERY, H. J.
27	29	mallusc	mollusc
36	22	Island	Island
37	3	BHUNIA, A.	BHUNIA, A. B.
39	17	Pnffer fish	Puffer fish
44	25	brackighwaters	brackish water
46	4	Tania	Taenia
57	5, 15	CHOPAR, B	CHOPRA, B.
60	9	<i>proc.</i>	<i>Proc.</i>
61	1, 32, 37, 40	nart	natn.
	8	<i>Joponicus</i>	<i>japonicus</i>
62	18	Socpe	Scope
65	10	port Canning	Port Canning
67	10	(Inpress)	1985
	12	<i>India</i>	<i>India</i> , 7 (2-3) : 179-183.
67	26	SANYAL, S. K.	SANYAL, A. K.
72	6	<i>proc.</i>	<i>Proc.</i>
73	37	fishereis	fisheries
86	18	<i>Liza Parasia</i>	<i>Liza parsia</i>
93	6	<i>Porosus</i>	<i>porosus</i>
	18	1985	(In press)
	35	(In press)	1987
	36	in ridley	in infant ridley
	36	<i>Copeia</i>	<i>Environ. &amp; Ecol.</i> , 5 (2) : 388-390.

94	33	(In press)	1986
	34	Hist. Soc.	Hist. Soc., 83 (1) : 223-224.
95	9	Naja N. naja	<i>Naja n. naja</i>
	9	<i>Naja N. Kaouthia</i>	<i>Naja n. Kaouthia</i>
	12	prasar	Prasar