

OCCASIONAL PAPER NO. 145

**Records of the
Zoological Survey of India**

**ICHTHYOFAUNA OF KONKAN REGION OF
MAHARASTRA (INDIA)**

**D. F. SINGH
AND
G. M. YAZDANI**

ZOOLOGICAL SURVEY OF INDIA

**RECORDS
OF THE
ZOOLOGICAL SURVEY OF INDIA**

MISCELLANEOUS PUBLICATION

OCCASIONAL PAPER NO.145

**Ichthyofauna of Konkan region of
Maharashtra (India)**

D. F. SINGH & G. M. YAZDANI

*Zoological Survey of India
Western Regional Station, Pune*



सत्यमेव जयते

Edited by the Director, Zoological Survey of India

1993

© *Copyright, Government of India, 1993*

Published : February, 1993

Price : *Inland* :Rs. 55.00

Foreign : £ 3.00 \$ 6.00

**Printed at Calcutta Laser Graphics Pvt. Ltd. , 71, Hari Ghosh Street, Calcutta-700 006
and Published by the Director, Zoological Survey of India, Calcutta**

**RECORDS
OF THE
ZOOLOGICAL SURVEY OF INDIA**

Occasional Paper 145

No. 145	1993	Pages 1-46
----------------	-------------	-------------------

CONTENTS

Introduction	...	...	1
Physical Features	...	...	1
List of Collecting Stations	...	...	4
Systematic Account	...	...	5
Acknowledgements	...	...	46
References	...	...	46

INTRODUCTION

The fish fauna occurring in this region of Maharashtra has been presented in this paper. Very little published information is available on the freshwater, estuarine or marine fish fauna of the Konkan which is an important but relatively under developed region covering five coastal districts namely : Thane, Greater Bombay, Raigad, Ratnagiri and Sindhudurg.

Our meagre information is derived from the works of : Annandale (1919), Fowler (1928), Mueller (1931), Bal (1943), Bal & Mohmed (1957), Kulkarni (1947), Pradhan (1964), Pillai & Jaya Prakash (1978), Misra (1983), Yazdani & Singh (1989) which dealt mainly with fishes off the Bombay coast.

The material examined in the present study pertains to the following Surveys conducted by the Western Regional Station, Zoological Survey of India, Pune :—

Raigad & Ratnagiri Dists.	1963	Dr. B.K. Tikader & Party.
Thana	1972	Dr. G.M. Yazdani & Party
Ratnagiri	1973	Dr. M. Babu Rao & Party
Raigad & Ratnagiri	1973–74	Dr. G. M. Yazdani & Party
Ratnagiri	1980	Dr. C.A.N. Rao & Party
Raigad	1981	Dr. M.S. Pradhan & Party
Thane	1984,86	Dr. M.S. Pradhan & Party
Ratnagiri	1987	Dr. R.H. Kamble & Party
Sindhudurg	1987	Dr. D.B. Bastawade & Party
Sindhudurg	1988	Dr. R.M. Sharma & Dr. D.F. Singh

Physical Features

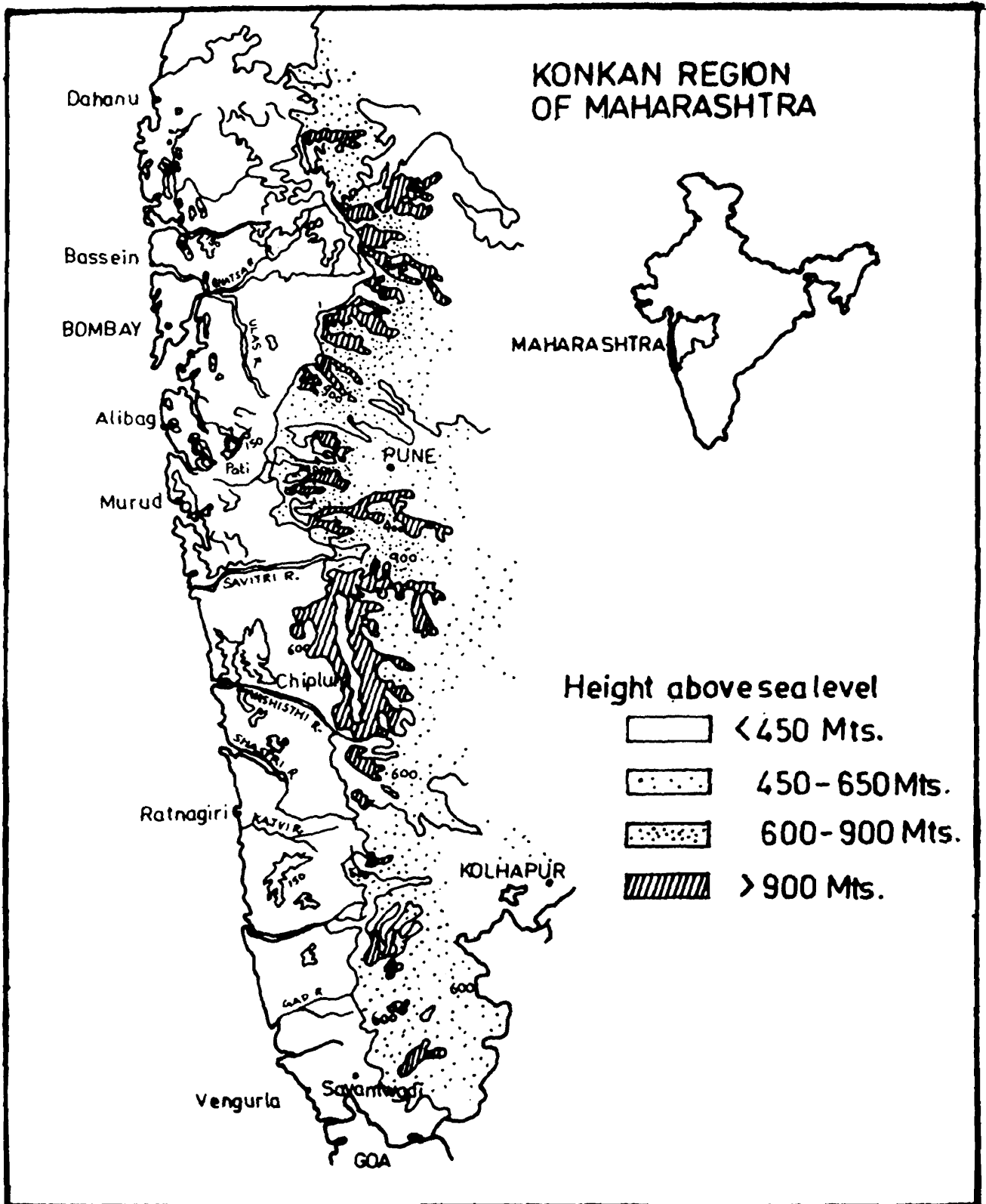
The Konkan Region

This region is a narrow coastal plain, confined between the Western Ghats (Sahyadris) and the Arabian sea and stretches all along the State of Maharashtra (Fig.1). It extends from the south of Damanganga river in the north to Goa in the South & includes the entire coastal strip of Maharashtra, having a length of about 500 km. & a 40–50 km. width. It covers 5 districts viz., Thane, Bombay, Raigad, Ratnagiri & Sindhudurg.

For convenience sake, Konkan can be divided into North Konkan & Bombay region, middle & South Konkan. They are detailed below :—

1. *North Konkan*

This region is dominated by the Bombay Metropolis & Thane district. It comprises of the foothills of the Western Ghats (to the east), the riverine plains and the Bombay metropolitan region.



MAP OF KONKAN RECIION OF MAHARASHTRA

The foothills of the Western Ghats—close to the steep descent on the Western Ghats escarpments are the foothills, either detached or close to the base of the escarpments, making an essemblage of low hills. Sometimes these foothills take the form of plateaus, like the Jowhar–Mokhada plateau at 350 m. ASL. Rivers like the Vaitarna and Tansa (originating from these foothills) have been impounded and reservoirs developed to provide water to Bombay city. Riverine plains—west of the foothill zone are a number of linear plains aligned with Ulhas, Kalu, Bhatsai, Tansa, Vaitarna and Pinjal rivers. While the Ulhas, Kalu and Bhatsai join the Thane-Kalyan creek, Tansa and Vaitarna join the sea just north of Dahisar.

The Bombay metropolitan region—This region includes Bombay city and the outlying areas, spread over an area of 3,965 sq. km. Sanjay Gandhi National Park (formerly Borivli Nat. Park) is situated in the region.

2. *Middle Konkan*

The region between river Patalganga in the north & Savitri in the South is considered as middle Konkan. This region falls in Raigad district. It is distinguished from South Konkan by a relatively more open and flat topography and absence of a laterite plateau.

The narrow region is a complex of forested hills, coastal plains and tidal creeks. The major rivers like Patalganga, Amba, Kundalika and Kal are present in this region.

3. *South Konkan*

The coastal region south of Savitri river is known as the South Konkan and differs from the middle Konkan by a thick and extensive cover of laterite and deeply entrenched drainage. This region fall under Ratnagiri and Sindhudurg districts.

The river network in the Konkan

The Konkan streams are short & flow east-west, almost parallel to each other & do not have a course longer than 100 km. In the North Konkan, the streams converge on Thana creek. While Pinjal, Vaitarna, Bhatsa & Ulhas are the rivers north of Thana creek, Amba, Kundalika, Savitri, Vashisti, Shastri, Kajvi, Waghothan & Gad are the principal rivers in South Konkan.

Although this is a heavy rainfall zone, the coastal streams are reduced to a thread of water during summer as the basins are small & the terrain being lateritic, the recharge from the ground water is quite limited. The rain water is quickly disposed off into the sea & the streams usually dry out after rains. The mouth of the Konkan rivers are subjected to tidal in flow but none are navigable except in their lower reaches (close to their mouth) because of the steep gradient.

List of Collecting Stations*Thana district*

1. Kila Bandar, Bassein
2. Panchoo Bandar, Bassein
3. Satpati Bay, Palghar
4. Gdviraj village, Palghar

Greater Bombay

1. Stream near Kanheri caves, Sanjay Gandhi Nat. Park, Borivli.
2. Dahisar river, S.G.N.P. Borivli.

Raigad district

1. Uran Khadi, Uran.
2. Kasarbhat, Panvel.
3. Talaja Khadi, Panvel.
4. Karjat.
5. Umberdor, Karjat.
6. Khopoli, Karjat
7. Alibag
8. Polynard village, Alibag.
9. Varsoli Bandar, 4 km. North of Alibag.
10. Pen
11. Dishu beach, Murud.
12. Janjira creek, Murud.
13. Roha.
14. Dasgaon, Mahad.
15. Savitri river, Poladpur.

Ratnagiri district

1. Mandangad
2. Dapoli town
3. Averi Nalla, Dapoli
4. Jaigad Bandar
5. Mirkarwada, 25 km. NW of Ratnagiri.
6. Mirvabandar 8 km. NW of Ratnagiri
7. Atowa village, Ratnagiri.

8. Rajivada Bandar, 2 km. SW of Ratnagiri
9. Seashore near Bhatya village, Ratnagiri.
10. Rajapur.

Sindhudurg district

1. Deogad
2. Vengurla

SYSTEMATIC ACCOUNT

Grade	:	PISCES
Class	:	CHONDRICHTHYES
Subclass	:	ELASMOBRANCHII
Order	:	LAMNIFORMES
Suborder	:	LAMNOIDEI
Family	:	CARCHARHINIDAE

1. *Scoliodon laticaudus* (Muller & Henle)

1841. *Carcharias (Scoliodon) laticaudus* Muller and Henle, *Syst. Besch. Plagiost*, 28, pl.8 (type-loc : India).

1878 *Carcharias laticaudus* Day, *Fishes of India* : 712, pl. 188, fig. 1.

Common Name : Yellow dogshark. *Local Name* : Son Mushi.

Systematic note : Small shark with the head flat & trowel shaped. Free rear tip of first dorsal about over mid-base of pelvic fins. Procaudal pits are present.

Geographic Distribution : Indo-west pacific region.

Collection : Uran Khadi (Raigad), Kila Bander, Bassein (Thane dist.) Rajivada bander (Ratnagiri Dist.).

This species constitutes a good fishery along the entire Konkan coast.

FAMILY : RHINOBATIDAE

2. *Rhynchobatus djeddensis* (Forsskal)

1775. *Raja djeddensis* Forsskal, *Descript. Animal* : 18 (Type-loc : Red Sea).

1878. *Rhynchobatus djeddensis* Day, *Fishes of India*, 730, pl. 192, fig. 1.

Common Name : White-spotted Shovelnose guitar-fish. *Local Name* : Ranja.

Systematic note : A ray of large size. The snout is elongate & tapering. First dorsal fin is triangular and situated above base of pelvic fins. The second dorsal fin is

similar in shape but is smaller in size. Eyes are large and immediately anterior to the spiracles. The spiracles is with two cutaneous folds. The upper surface of the body is dark olive-green with white spots on posterior margin of disc. Lower surface is greyish white.

Geographic Distribution : Indo-west pacific region.

Collection : Vengurla (Ratnagiri)

This is a large guitar fish. Its liver oil is in much use.

Class	:	OSTEICHTHYES
Subclass	:	ACTINOPTERYGII
Order	:	CLUPEIFORMES
Suborder	:	CLUPEOIDEI
Family	:	CLUPEIDAE
Subfamily	:	CLUPEINAE

3. *Sardinella longiceps*, Valenciennes

1847. *Sardinella longiceps* Valenciennes, *Hist.nat.Poiss.* 20 : 273 (Type-loc : Pondicherry)

1878. *Clupea longiceps* Day, *Fishes of India* : 637, pl. 161, fig.2.

Common Name : Indian Oil Sardine. *Local Name* : Tarli, Haid.

Systematic note : The body is compressed with the belly keeled. Mouth is terminal. Dorsal fin origin before pelvic fin origin. Pelvic fins with 9 rays. Pseudobranch is long with a distinct ventral ridge. Gill rakers curled upwards, 150–250 on lower arm of first arch.

Geographic Distribution : Indian Coasts, North Borneo, the Philippines and upto East Africa in the west.

Collection : Kila Bander, Bassein (Thane), Uran Khadi (Raigad).

It form the most important fishery near Ratnagiri coast, especially after the southwest monsoon (August–March).

4. *Sardinella melanura* (Cuvier)

1829. *Clupea melanura* Cuvier, *Regne Animal* (2nd ed.), 2 : 318. (Type-loc : Bombay).

1878. *Clupea atricauda* Day, *Fishes of India* : 636, pl. 164, fig. 5.

1973. *Sardinella melanura* : Whitehead, *J.mar.biol.Ass.India* : 14 (1) : 180.

Common Name : Blackstrip Sardinella. *Local Name* : Tarli, Haid.

Systematic note : The body is fusiform with the belly strongly keeled. Abdominal scutes usually 16 to 17. Pseudobranch is short and flat. Gill rakers on lower arm of first arch 38 to 74. Pelvic fin with 8 rays. The colour of body is blue-green above and the sides are silvery. The caudal is tipped with black colour.

Geographic Distribution : Throughout Indo-West Pacific region.

Collection : Uran Khadi (Raigad)

It form a minor fishery along the coast during December.

Subfamily : PRISTIGASTERINAE

5. *Opisthopterus tardoore* (Cuvier)

1829. *Pristigaster tardoore* Cuvier, *Regne Animal* (2nd edition), 2 : 321 (on 'Tartoore' of Russell, 1803, *Fishes of Coromandal*, 2 : 74, pl. 103–ex. Uizagapatnam).

1878. *Opisthopterus tartoor* (Valenciennes) : Day, *Fishes of India* : 646, pl.163, fig.5.

1973. *Opisthopterus tardoore* : Whitehead, *J.mar.biol.Ass.India*, 14 (1) : 215, fig. 39.

Common Name : Tardoore. **Local Name** : Palfurda.

Systematic note : Body is elongate and compressed. Body keeled with 29–35 prominent scutes. Mouth directed upwards with prominent lower jaw. Gill rakers 22–28 on lower arm of the first arch. Pelvic fin absent while Anal is long with upto 60 branched rays. The back is bluegreen while the flanks are silvery.

Geographic Distribution : Western and Southern coasts of India, Sri Lanka and Indonesia.

Collection : Jaigad (Ratnagiri).

This species inhabits the western coastal areas. It is caught in small quantities.

Subfamily : ALSINAE

6. *Hilsa ilisha* (Hamilton–Buchanan)

1822. *Clupanodon ilisha* Hamilton–Buchanan, *Fishes of Ganges*, 243, pl.19, fig. 73 (Type-loc : Ganges estuaries).

1878. *Clupea ilisha* : Day, *Fishes of India* : 640, pl.162, fig. 3.

1983. *Hilsa (Tenualosa) ilisha* : Whitehead, *J.mar.biol.Ass.India*, 14 (1) : 199, fig.27.

Common Name : Hilsa Shad. **Local Name** : Pala.

Systematic note : Body is fusiform with the belly having scutes (pre-pelvic 16–18 scutes and post-pelvic 13–16). A distinct median notch on the upper jaw. Gill rakers numerous (120–275 on lower part of first arch). Caudal fin as long as head. Pectoral and Pelvic fins with axillary scales. Dorsal fin with 15–16 branched rays. The back is blue-green while the flanks are silvery.

Geographic Distribution : Indo-West Pacific region.

Collection : Panchoo Bander, Bassein, Satpati Bay, Palghar (Thane).

This species is now available in small quantities. It ascends rivers like Vaitarna and Ulhas.

7. *Hilsa toli* (Valenciennes)

1847. *Alausa toli* Valenciennes, *Hist.nat.Poiss.* 20 : 435, (Type-loc : Pondicherry, Bombay).

1878. *Clupea toli* : Day, *Fishes of India* : 641, pl. 162, fig. 2.

1973. *Hilsa (Tenualosa) toli* : Whitehead, *J.mar.biol.Ass.India*, 14 (1) : 200, fig. 28.

Common Name : Toli Shad. *Local Name* : Bing.

Systematic note : Body is fusiform with belly with sharply keeled scutes, 17–18 pre-pelvic and 11–13 post-pelvic. Upper jaw has a distinct median notch. Caudal fin longer than head. Dorsal fin with 14 or 15 branched rays.

Geographic Distribution : Indian coasts, Indo-Australian archipelago.

Collection : Panchoo Bander, Bassein, Satpati Bay, Palghar (Thane).

This species inhabits the coastal waters, estuaries and even ascends rivers.

Family : ENGRAULIDAE

Subfamily : COILINAE

8. *Coilia dussumieri* Valenciennes

1848. *Coilia dussumieri* Val., *Hist.nat.Poiss.* 21 : 81, pl.610. (Type-loc : Bombay).

1878. *Coilia dussumieri* Val. : Day, *Fishes of India* : 631, pl.158, Fig.8.

1976. *Coilia dussumieri* : Mishra, *Fauna of India, Pisces* (2nd ed.), 2 : 114, fig. 30.

Common Name : Gold spotted anchovy. *Local Name* : Mandeli.

Systematic note : Body compressed, very elongate, narrowing behind to a long slender tail. Mouth is oblique. Pectoral fin with first 4–6 rays filamentous. Anal fin long (35–116 rays), confluent with a minute caudal fin. Longitudinal rows of pearly spots on sides of body.

Geographical Distribution : Indian coast and Indo-Australian archipelago.

Collection : Panchoo Bassein, Satpati Bay, Palghar (Thane), Uran Khadi (Raigad).

It is commonly caught in bag-nets along the coast. It is consumed in fresh condition & also dried for transporting to distant places.

9. *Coilia neglecta* Whitehead

1968. *Coilia neglecta* Whitehead, *J.mar.biol.Ass.India*, 9 (1) : 33 (Type-loc : Arabian Sea, NW of Bombay, also off Indus, Ganges & Irrawaddy deltas) ; Whitehead, 1973. *J.mar.biol.Ass.India*, 14 (1) : 241, fig. 65.

Common Name : Whitehead's grenadier anchovy.

Systematic note : Body compressed, belly rounded under pectoral fin base, becoming compressed and keeled towards vent. 6–9 pre pelvic scutes and 7–11 post pelvic scutes. Dorsal fin with a small spine. Pectoral fin with 6 filamentous rays. Body is light brown in colour.

Geographic Distribution : Indian coast, Singapore & Thailand.

Collection : Satpati beach, Palghar, Kila bander (Thane).

This fish is not caught in large numbers.

Subfamily : ENGRAULINAE

10. *Thryssa purava* (Ham–Buch.)

1822. *Clupea purava* Hamilton–Buchanan, *Fishes of Ganges* : 238. (Type–loc : Gangetic estuaries).

1878. *Engraulis purava* : Day, *Fishes of India* : 628, pl.157, fig.2.

1973. *Thryssa purava* : Whitehead, *J.mar.biol.Ass.India*, 14 (1) : 231, fig. 55.

Common Name : Gangetic Anchovy. **Local Name** : Katil

Systematic note : Body elongate and compressed with belly keeled (15–17 pre pelvic and 9–12 post pelvic scutes). Snout blunt. Maxilla long and with tip pointed. Dorsal fin with 9–12 branched rays with a anterior small spine. Anal fin with 38–44 branched rays. Back is brown and flanks are silvery.

Geographic Distribution : East coast of India.

Collection : Panchoo Bander (Thane).

It is caught in small quantities. Its an oily fish, suitable for canning.

Order : OSTEOGLOSSIFORMES

Family : NOTOPTERIDAE

11. *Notopterus notopterus* (Pallas)

1769. *Gymnotus notopterus* Pallas, *Spicil.Zool.*, Petersburg, 7 p.40, pl.6, fig.2. (Type–loc : Indian Ocean).

1878. *Notopterus kaporat* : Day, *Fishes of India*, p.653, pl. CLIX, fig. 4.

1976. *Notopterus notopterus* : Misra, *Fauna of India*, Pisces (2nd ed.). 2 : 278, fig.77 & pl.7. fig.3.

Common Name : Featherback. **Local Name** : Chalat.

Systematic note : Body oblong and strongly compressed. Head compressed. Pre-orbital serrated. Mouth moderate with maxilla extending upto mid orbit. Dorsal fin inserted nearer to snout than base of caudal. Scales minute. Colour is silvery white.

Geographic Distribution : India, Pakistan, Nepal, Bangladesh, Burma, Malaya, Thailand and Indonesia.

Collection : Karjat.

This is a common freshwater fish but not much preferred as food. It inhabits fresh as well as brackish waters.

Order : CYPRINIFORMES

Family : CYPRINIDAE

12. *Salmostoma clupeoides* (Bloch)

1895. *Cyprinus clupeoides* Bloch, *Auslandische Fische*, Berlin, 12, p.49 pl.408, fig.20 (Type-loc : Tranquebar).

1878. *Chela clupeoides* : Day, *Fishes of India*, p.602

1968. *Salmostoma clupeoides* : Banarescu, *Revue roum. Biol. (Zool)*, 13 (1) : 5 fig.2 ; Banarescu, 1971, *Revue roum. Biol. (Zool.)*, 16(1) : 16.

Local Name : Balshi, Alkut.

Systematic Note : Body is elongate & compressed. Mouth oblique with lower jaw having a well developed symphysial knob. 24–29 gill rakers on the first arch. Scales small. Lateral line with 78–93 scales. Silvery colour.

Geographic Distribution : India : Maharashtra, M.P., Gujarat & Burma.

Collection : Karjat.

These are caught in large numbers and serve as a poor man's food.

13. *Chela laubuca* (Ham.)

1822. *Cyprinus laubuca* Hamilton, *fish Ganges* pp. 260, 380, (Type-loc : Ponds of the northern parts of Bengal).

1878. *Perilampus laubuca* : Day, *fishes of India*, p.598, pl. CLI, Fig. 5.

1987. *Danio (Danio) menoi* : Tilak & Jain, *J. Bombay nat. Hist. Soc.* 84 (3) : 693.

Common Name : Winged Rasbora, Indian glass-barb. **Local Name** : Mamli, Alkut.

Systematic Note : Body deep and greatly compressed. Abdomen keeled only between and behind pelvic fins. Pectoral fins large and wing like. Lateral line complete with 31–37 scales, lateral transverse scales 6–7/2–4 and predorsal scales 15–20. Colour in life is shining silvery. Base of Caudal fin with a deep black

blotch. A longitudinal stripe may be present on the body which extends to operculum where it surrounds a deep black blotch.

Geographic Distribution : India, Pakistan, Bangladesh, Sri Lanka, Burma, Malay and Sumatra.

Collection : Dasgaon, Mahad (Raigad).

These serve as poor man's food and hence are caught by tribals from freshwater ponds and rivers.

14. *Danio aequipinnatus* (McClelland)

1839. *Perilampus aequipinnatus* McClelland, *Asiatic Res.* 19, p.3., pl.60, fig.1 (Type-loc : Assam).

1878. *Daino aequipinnatus* : Day, *Fishes of India*, p.596, pl.CL. fig. 6.

1985. *Danio deyi* Sen and Dey, *J.Assam Sci.Soc.*, 27 (2) : 61, fig.1.

Common Name : Giant Danio. **Local Name** : Balooki.

Systematic Note : The body is elongate and compressed. A pre-orbital spine present. Mouth is small and directed upwards. 2 short barbels present. Lateral line complete with 35–37 scales. Pre-dorsal scales 14–15. Colour of body brilliant blue with a well developed lateral band of dark blue along side. A well defined black spot near upper angle of gill-opening.

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

Collection : Averi nallah, Daoli (Ratnagiri).

15. *Daino fraseri* Hora & Misra

1934. *Daino fraseri* Hora & Mukerji, *Rec.Indian Mus.*, : 36, 133–134.

1938. *Daino fraseri* : Fraser, *J.Bombay Nat.Hist.Soc.*, 39 (3/4) : 695.

Common Name : Daino. **Local Name** : Balooki.

Systematic Note : Body is elongate and compressed. Mouth is small and directed obliquely upwards. Lower lip is hypertrophied while the upper lip is normal. 2 pair of barbels present. Pectoral fins long, extending beyond base of pelvic fin. Lateral line complete with 38–40 scales. Predorsal scales 16–17.

Geographic Distribution : Restricted : India (Nasik dist, Maharashtra).

Collection : Karjat (Raigad), Palghar (Thane).

16. *Daino malabaricus* (Jerdon)

1849. *Perilampus malabaricus* Jerdon, *Madras J.Litt. & Sci.*, 15 : 325 (Type-loc : Malabar).

1878. *Daino malabaricus* : Day, *Fishes of India* : 595, pl. Cl, fig. 7.

1980. *Daino malabaricus* : Howes, *Bull.Br.Mus.nat.Hist. (Zool.)*, 37 (3) : 140.

Common Name : Daino.

Systematic Note : Body elongate and strongly compressed. A weak pre-orbital spine. Mouth small and directed upwards. Barbels 2 pair. Rostral barbels rudimentary and maxillary barbels usually vestigial. Lateral line complete with 32–34 scales. Predorsal scales 14-15.

Geographic Distribution : India (West Coast) and Sri Lanka.

Collection : Savitri River, Poladpur (Raigad), Danoli (Ratnagiri).

17. *Parluciosoma daniconius* (Ham.)

1822. *Cyprinus daniconius* Hamilton, *Fishes of Ganges*, pp.327, 329, pl.15, fig .89 (Type-loc : Rivers of Southern Bengal).

1878. *Rasbora daniconius* : Day, *Fishes of India*, p.584. pl.CXLVI, fig.2 ; Brittan, 1954, *Monogr.Inst.Sci.Techn.Manila*, (3) : 135.

Common Name : Rasbora. *Local Name* : Dandai, Dawvan.

Systematic Note : Body is oblong and compressed. Mouth small. Abdomen rounded. Lateral line nearly complete with 31–34 scales.

Geographic distribution : India, Pakistan, Sri Lanka, Bangladesh and Burma.

Collection : Savitri river, Poladput, Pen (Raigad), Mandangad, Dapoli taluka, Dandi (Ratnagiri).

18. *Barilius bendelisis* (Ham.)

1822. *Cyprinus bendelisis* Hamilton, *Fishes of Ganges*, pp.270, 385 (Type-loc Rivers of Mysore).

1878. *Barilius bendelisis* : Day, *Fishes of India*, p.590, pl. CXLVIII, fig. 7, 8 & 9 ; Tilak *et al.*, 1984, *Rec.Zool.Surv.India*, 81 (3/4) : 280.

Common Name : Hill trout. *Local Name* : Johra.

Systematic Note : Body shallow and laterally compressed. Mouth moderate with jaws long, maxilla extends to below anterior-third of orbit. Barbels 2 short pairs. Dorsal fin much in advance of anal fin. Anal fin short with 7–8 branched rays. Colour silvery. 8–12 dark bands descending towards the lateral line (in young ones).

Geographic distribution : India, Palistan, Nepal, Bangladesh and Sri Lanka

Collection : Pen (Raigad).

19. *Carassius auratus* Linn.

1878. *Carassius auratus* Linnaeus, *Syst.Nat.* 1 : 527 ; Day, *Fishes of India*, p.552 ; Weber and de Beaufort, 1916. *Fishes Indo Australian Archipelago*, 3 : 103, fig.45.

Common Name : Gold fish.

Systematic Note : Body fairly stout and deep. Dorsal and ventral profile equally arched. Mouth small and terminal. Anal fin with 5 branched rays. Pectoral fin rounded. Lateral line with about 28 scales. No blotch on caudal peduncle.

Geographic Distribution : India, China and Japan.

Distribution : Kila bunder, Bassein (Thane).

20. *Puntius amphibius* (Val.)

1842. *Capoeta amphibia* Valenciennes, *Hist.Nat.Poiss*, 16, p.282, pl.478 (Type-loc : Bombay).
1878. *Barbus amphibius* : Day, *Fishes of India*, p.574, pl.CXLII, fig.8 ; Hora and Law, 1941, *Rec.Indian Mus.*, 43 (2) : 244.

Common Name : Scarlet banded barb. **Local Name** : Khavli.

Systematic Note : Body spindle shaped with both the profiles equally converse. Mouth small and terminal. One pair of barbels (maxillary). Dorsal fin inserted near to tip of snout than base of caudal fin. Lateral line complete with 23-24 scales. Predorsal scales 7-8.

Geographic Distribution : Peninsular India and Sri Lanka.

Collection : Palghar (Thane), Pen (Raigad), Kasarbhata, Panvel (Raigad).

21. *Puntius filamentosus* (Val.)

1844. *Leucius filamentosus* Valenciennes, *Hist.nat.Poiss*, 17, p.96, pl. 492 (Type-loc : d' Alypey = Alleppey) ; Menon, 1967, *Ichthyologica* : 147.
1878. *Barbus filamentosus* : Day, *Fishes of India*, p. 582.

Common Name : Filamented barb.

Systematic Note : Body elongate. Mouth moderate with one pair of small maxillary barbels, hidden in grooves around corners of the mouth. dorsal fin inserted equidistant between tip of snout and base of caudal fin. In adult males, 5 unbranched rays elongated into filaments. Scales large. Lateral line complete with 21 scales.

Geographic distribution : India (Goa and Karnataka ; Kerala and Tamil Nadu), Sri Lanka and Burma.

Collection : Danoli (Ratnagiri).

22. *Puntius ticto* (Ham.)

1822. *Cyprinus ticto* Hamilton, *Fishes of Ganges*, pp.314, 389, pl.8, fig.87 (Type-loc : South-east parts of Bengal).

1878. *Barbus ticto* : Day, *Fishes of India*, p. 576, pl. CXLIV, fig.7 ; Murthy, 1977, *Proc.Indian Acad.Sci.* : 85 B (3) : 130.

Common Name : Fire fin barb. **Local name** : Khavli.

Systematic Note : Body elongate. Mouth terminal and small. No barbels. Dorsal fin inserted slightly posterior to pelvic in origin. Its last unbranched ray osseous, strong & serrated at its posterior edge. Lateral line ceases after 6 to 8 scales. Predorsal scales 9–11.

Geographic distribution : India, Nepal, Pakistan, Sri Lanka, Bangladesh, Burma and Thailand.

Collection : Savitri river, Poladpur (Raigad) Averinallah, Dapoli (Ratnagiri).

23. *Puntius sarana subnasutus* (Val.)

1842. *Barbus subnasutus* Valenciennes, (in Cuvier and Valenciennes). *Hist. Nat. Poiss*, 16 : 154 (Type-loc : Pondichery).

1878. *Barbus sarana* : Day, *Fishes of India*, p : 560, pl. CXXXVI, fig.2.

1963. *Puntius sarana subnasutus* : Menon, *Spolia Zeyl*, 30 (1) : 69.

Common Name : Olive Carp. **Local Name** : Darai, Khavli.

Systematic Note : Body is oblong and deep. Mouth moderate with 2 pairs of barbels. Dorsal fin inserted equidistant between tip of snout and base of caudal fin. Lateral line complete with 28 to 21 scales. Pre-dorsal scales 10.

Geographic distribution : India : Krishna and Cauvery river systems, Kerala.

Collection : Gdvira, Palghar (Thane), Talaja Khadi, Panvel (Raigad), Danoli (Ratnagiri).

24. *Gonoproktopterus kolus* (Sykes)

1841. *Barbus kolus* Sykes, *Trans.Zool.Soc.Lond.*, 2 : 357, pl.62, fig.1 (Type-loc : Mota Mola river, 8 miles east of Poona) ; Silas, 1953, *J.Bombay nat.Hist.Soc.*, 51 : 581.

Common Name : Kolus. **Local Name** : Kholisi.

Systematic Note : Body deep and compressed. Eyes large, its upper edge near the dorsal profile. Mouth slightly subterminal. One pair barbels. Dorsal fin inserted anterior to pelvic fin. Lateral line scales 40–43.

Geographic Distribution : India : Krishna, Godavari and Cauvery river systems.

Collection : Savitri river, Poladpur (Raigad).

25. *Labeo dussumieri* (Val.)

1842. *Rohita dussumieri* Valenciennes (in Cuvier & Valenciennes), *Hist.Nat.Poiss*, 16 : 258.

1878. *Labeo dussumieri* : Day, *Fishes of India*, p.538, pl. CXXVI, fig. 5; Hora 1937, *Rec.Indian Mus.*, 39 (1) : 19

Common Name : Malabar Labco.

Systematic Note : Body elongate and compressed. Snout projecting slightly beyond mouth. Eyes moderate, not visible from underside of head. 2 minute pair of barbels. Dorsal fin inserted nearer to tip of snout than to caudal fin base. Lateral line with 53–60 scales. Lateral transverse scale row 5–5 between lateral line and pelvic fin base.

Geographic Distribution : India : Western Ghats upto North Canara, Sri Lanka.

Collection : Polynad village, Alibag.

26. *Parapsilorhynchus tentaculatus* Annandale

1919. *Parapsilorhynchus tentaculatus* Annandale, *Rec.Indian Mus.*, 16 (1) : 128, pl.1, fig.4, 4a, pl.3, fig.2. (Type-loc : Khandalla, Maharashtra State) ; Hora, 1921, *Rec. Indian Mus.*, 22 (1) : 13.

Common Name : Khandala minnow.

Systematic Note : Body spatulate, back moderately arched. Mouth small, crescentic, upper lip fringed. Lower lip bilobed with a small pad behind it. Single pair of rostral barbels. Dorsal fin inserted opposite to pelvic fins. Pectoral fins with 3 simple rays. Lateral line scales 36–39. Eyes not visible from underside of head.

Geographic Distribution : India : Northern parts of western Ghats, Pachmari in Satpura and Bailadila range in Baster (M.P.).

Collection : Stream near Kanheri caves, Borivli (Bombay).

27. *Garra mullya* (Sykes)

1841. *Chondrostoma mullya* Sykes, *Trans.Zool.Soc.London*, 2, p.359, pl.62, fig.3. (Type-loc : Poona).

1878. *Discognathus lamta* : Day, *Fishes of India*, p.527, pl. CXXII, fig. 4 & CXXIII, fig. 1.

1964. *Garra mullya* : Menon, *Mem.Indian Mus.*, 14 (4) : 173–200.

Common Name : Stone Carp. **Local Name** : Mallya.

Systematic Note : Body elongate. Snout rounded and smooth, mouth small. A suctorial disc small but well marked present on chin. 2 pair barbels. Dorsal fin inserted near tip of snout than caudal fin base. Caudal fin slightly emarginate. Lateral line with 32–34 scales. A distinct black spot just behind angle of operculum and a blotch at caudal fin base.

Geographic distribution : Throughout India except Himalaya and Assam.

Collection : Umberdor (Karjat) ; Savitri river, Poladpur; Pen (Raigad), Rajapur ; Averi nalla (Ratnagiri).

28. *Garra gotyla gotyla* (Gray)

1832. *Cryprinus gotyla* Gray, *Iii.Ind. Zool.* Hardwicke, 1, pl. 88, figs.3, 3a. (Type-loc : N. India).

1964. *Garra gotyla gotyla* : Menon, *Mem.Indian Mus.*, 14 (4) : 233, pl.13, figs. 1-4.

Common Name : Gotvla. **Local Name** : Shingacha mallya.

Systematic Note : Body elongate with head depressed. Snout with a well developed median proboscis and a tranverse lobe at tip. Spiny tubercles present on the tranverse lobe and sides of head. Mental disc is well developed. 2 pair barbels. Lateral line scales 32-35.

Geographic distribution : India : all along the Himalaya, Chota–Nagpur plateau and Vindhya-Satpura hill ranges. Bangladesh and Upper Burma.

Collection : Mandangad, Dapoli (Ratnagiri).

Family : HOMALOPTERIDAE

Subfamily : NOEMACHEILINAE

29. *Noemacheilus evezardi* Day

1878. *Noemacheilus evezardi* , *Fishes of India*, p.613, pl.153, fig.11. (Type-loc : Poona) : Menon, 1987. *The fauna of India* : Pisces : p.191, fig. 1 & 2. pl.4.

Common Name : Loach. **Local Name** : Chikli.

Systematic Note : A small subcylindrical body, loach like with well developed nasal barbels. Caudal fin rounded. Dorsal fin with 7 branched rays; inserted near to base of caudal than tip of snout. Colouration characteristic with 9–18 brown ventral stripes from back to ventral side. Some stripes are interrupted or incomplete. A vertical dark stripe at base of caudal. Dorsal fin with 2 or 3 rows of spots.

Geographic Distribution : Western Ghats : Krishna and Godavari river basins; Satpura range : Pochmari hills.

Collection : Stream near Kanheri caves, Borivli (Thane).

30. *Noemacheilus denisonii* Day

1867. *Noemacheilus denisonii*, *Proc. Zool.Soc.*, London, p.287 (Type-loc : Bhawany river, base of Nilgiris) : Menon, 1987, *Fauna of India, Pisces*, 4 : 93, pl.10, figs.3 & 4.

Common Name : Loach. **Local Name** : Murunga.

Systematic Note : Body of uniform depth. Eyes small, not visible from underside. Nostrils close together, anterior tubular. Mouth semicircular. Barbels well-developed. Dorsal fin with 8 branched rays and inserted midway between snout-tip and base of caudal fin. Caudal fin deeply emarginate. Lateral line incomplete. Body with varying number of brown bands. Dorsal and caudal fins banded.

Geographic Distribution : Peninsular India : widely distributed except the Chota Nagpur plateau. Bastar, M.P., Maharashtra, Kerala and Karnataka States on the S.W. coast.

Collection : Panvel (Raigad).

Subfamily : COBITINAE

31. *Lepidocephalus (Lepidocephalichthys) guntea* (Ham.)

1822. *Cobitis guntea* Hamilton, *Fishes of Ganges*, pp.353, 394 (Type-loc : Ponda and freshwater rivers of Bengal).

1878. *Lepidocephalichthys guntea* : *Fishes of India* : 609, pl. CLV, fig.4, pl.CLVI, fig. 12; Tilak & Hussain, 1981. *Occ. Paper Rec.Zool.Surv.India*, (32) : 7, figs.1-4.

Common Name : Loach. **Local Name** : Mori

Systematic Note : Body elongate, low and slightly compressed anteriorly. Body depth 5.8 to 6.8 times in total length. Mouth inferior with 3 pairs of barbels. Dorsal fin inserted slightly behind level of origin of pelvic fins, near to caudal fin base than tip of snout. A patch of scales extends from below eye to upper part of operculum. Colour is highly variable. A dark spot on upper part of base of caudal fin.

Geographical Distribution : Northern India, Pakistan, Bangladesh, Nepal, Burma and Thailand.

Collection : Mandagad, Dapoli (Ratnagiri).

32. *Lepidocephalus (Lepidocephalichthys) thermalis* (Val.)

1846. *Cobitis thermalis* Valenciennes (In Cuvier & Valenciennes), *Hist. Nat. Poiss*, 18 : 78 (Type-loc : Malabar).

1878. *Lepidocephalichthys thermalis* : *fishes of India* : 610, pl. CLV, fig.3.

1981. *Lepidocephalus (Lepidocephalichthys) thermalis* : Tilak & Hussain, 1981, *Occ. Paper Rec.Zool.Surv.India*, (32) : 12, fig.5 & 6.

Common Name : Lesser Loach. *Local Name* : Mori.

Systematic Note : Body elongate slightly compressed anteriorly. Body depth 7.5 to 9.7 times in total length. Mouth inferior. Barbels 3 pairs. Dorsal fin inserted somewhat anterior to pelvic fins, usually near caudal fin base than to snout tip. Caudal fin truncate. A small patch of scales just behind. Suborbital spine on head. Colour is grey to greyish green with 8–10 irregular spots along flanks. Dorsal and anal fin with rows of spots.

Geographic distribution India : Coastal region of Maharashtra, Karnataka and Kerala. Sri Lanka.

Collection : Pen, Mahad (Raigad).

Order : ANGUILLIFORMES

Family : CONGRIDAE

Subfamily : CONGRINAE

33. *Uroconger lepturus* (Richardson)

1845. *Congrus lepturus* Richardson, *Zool.Voy.Sulphur*, : 106, pl.56, fig. 1–6 (Type-loc : Canton, China).

1878. *Uroconger lepturus* : Day, *Fishes of India* : 661, pl.170, fig.1.

Common Name : Slender Congreel. *Local Name* : Vam.

Systematic Note : Body elongate and cylindrical, becoming narrower on tail which tapers to a point. Head large and stout. Mouth large with a single row of vomerine teeth (10–20). Dorsal fin origin above or slightly before pectoral fin base. Lateral line prominent.

Geographic Distribution : Tropical Indo-West Pacific region.

Collection : Mirkarwada (Ratnagiri).

It is caught in bag-nets and is of minor economic value.

Family : OPHICHTHIDAE

34. *Psiodonophis boro* (Ham–Buch.)

1822. *Ophisurus boro* Hamilton–Buchanan, *Fishes of Ganges* : 20 pl.5, fig.5 (Type-loc : Hooghly estuary near Calcutta).

1878. *Ophichthys boro* : Day, *Fishes of India*, 664, pl.171, fig. 2.

Common Name : Bengal's snake-eel. *Local Name* : Munderi.

Systematic Note : Body elongate and cylindrical. Length of head 9–12 times in total length. Mouth large, cleft extending behind eye. Dorsal fin considerably behind tip of pectoral fin.

Geographic Distribution : Indo-West Pacific region.

Collection : Taluga, Panvel (Raigad).

It inhabits estuaries and is usually found in the sand.

Order : SILURIFORMES

Family : ARIIDAE

35. *Arius caelatus* Val.

1840. *Arius caelatus* Valenciennes, *Hist.nat.Poiss*, 15 : 66. (Type-loc : Bombay) : Day, 1877, *fishes of India* : 459, pl.105, fig.5.

1976. *Tachysurus caelatus* : Misra, *Fauna of India*, Pisces (2nd ed.), 3 : 35, fig.4.

Common Name : Engraved Cat-fish. **Local Name** : Shingala.

Systematic Note : Body robust and elongate. Head profile concave at nape with the supra-occipital process rising thereafter. Mouth subterminal. Teeth on palate in two more or less triangular patches. 3 pairs of barbels. The maxillary and outer mandibular barbels of unequal length. Dorsal fin spine coarsely granulated. Pectoral fin spine strong and also coarsely granulated. Body bluish black on top of head and back, white below and flanks are metallic blue in colour.

Geographic Distribution : India, Pakistan, Sri Lanka to Indo-Australian archipelago.

Collection : Kila Bander, Basscin (Thane) Dishu beach, Murud (Raigad).

This is a commercially important catfish of the west coast.

36. *Arius sagor* (Ham–Buch.)

1822. *Pimelodus sagor* Hamilton–Buchanan, *Fishes of Ganges* : 169, 378. (Type-loc : estuaries of Bengal).

1877. *Arius sagor* : *Fishes of India*, 461, pl.105, fig.1.

Common Name : Sagor catfish. **Local Name** : Shingala.

Systematic Note : Body elongate. Head broad and much depressed. 3 pairs of barbels. The maxillary barbels reaching to the middle of pectoral fins. Supra-occipital process on head large, broader than longer. Basal plate before dorsal fin distinctly large and butterfly-shaped. Dorsal and pectoral fins with spine, the tips of spines with a filamentous prolongation. Colour–grey blue with belly milky white.

Geographic Distribution : India to Indo-Australian archipelago, but not the

Philippines or Australia.

Collection : Rajivada Bandar, 2 km. SW of Ratnagiri.

37. *Arius sona* (Ham-Buch.)

1822. *Pimelodus sona* Hamilton-Buchanan, *Fishes of Ganges*, 172, 376 (Type-loc : estuaries of Bengal).

1877. *Arius sona* : Day, *Fishes of India*, 462, pl. 105, fig.2.

Common Name : Dusky catfish. *Local Name* : Shingala.

Systematic Note : Body elongate. Head broad and depressed. 3 pairs of barbels. Head shield granulated. Supra-occipital process as wide or under at its base than long. Premaxillary band of teeth villiform. Dorsal and pectoral fin-spines strong. Colour : Leaden grey, pale below.

Geographic Distribution : India, Pakistan, Bangladesh, Sri Lanka and the East Indies.

Collection : Kila Bander, Bassein (Thane).

This is a commercially important fish.

38. *Batrachocephalus mino* (Ham-Buch.)

1822. *Ageneiosus mino* Hamilton-Buchanan, *Fishes of Ganges* : 159. (Type-loc : Ganges river).

1877. *Batrachocephalus mino* : *Fishes of India*, 468, pl.108, fig.1.

Common Name : Frog-headed catfish.

Systematic Note : Body elongate. Head large and broad. Head-shields form a cross. The occipital process longer than broad at its base. One pair of small barbels. Dorsal and pectoral fin spines serrated. Colour : silvery, with dark brown above.

Geographic Distribution : India, Pakistan, Sri Lanka, Bangladesh, Burma and the East Indies.

Collection : Janjira creek, Murud (Raigad).

It is usually present in estuaries, but is not caught in large numbers.

Family : BAGRIDAE

39. *Mystus keletius* (Val.)

1839. *Bagrus keletius* (nec Blecker) Valenciennes, 1839, *Hist.nat.Poiss.* 14, p.411. (Type-loc : Pondicherry).

1875. *Macrones keletius* : Day, *Fishes of India*, p.449, pl. XCVIII, fig.3.

1977. *Mystus keletius* : Jayaram, *Rec.Zool.Surv. India Occ.Paper*, 8 (:31).

Systematic Note : Body elongate and compressed. Depth of body 4.5 time in standard length. Occipital process long and narrow, not extending to basal bone of dorsal fin. 4 pair barbels. Maxillary barbels extend to middle of pelvic fin. Dorsal spine serrated on its inner side. Colour : Silvery with dull white on belly. A dark shoulder spot present.

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

Collection : Polynard village, Alibag (Raigad dist.).

40. *Mystus vittatus* (Bloch)

1797. *Silurus vittatus* Bloch, *Ichthyol.Hist.Nat.*, 11, p.40, pl.371, fig.2. (Type-loc : Tranquebar).

1875. *Macrones vittatus* : Day, *Fishes of India*, p.448, pl. XCVIII, fig.3.

Common Name : Striped dwarf cat-fish.

Systematic Note : Body elongate and somewhat compressed. Body depth 3.8 to 4.2 times in standard length. Occipital process reaching basal bone of dorsal fin. 4 pair barbels. Maxillary pair extends posteriorly beyond pelvic fin. Dorsal spine weak, finely serrated on its inner edge. Colour : greyish-silver with several pale blue or dark and brown longitudinal bands on sides. A shoulder spot present.

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

Collection : Urankhad (Raigad).

41. *Mystus menoda trachacanthus* (Val.)

1839. *Bagrus trachacanthus* Valenciennes, *Hist.Nat.Poiss*, 14, p.419. (Type-loc : Bengal).

1977. *Mystus (Mystus) menoda trachacanthus* : Jayaram, *Rec.Zool.Surv.India Occ.Paper* (8) : 33.

Systematic Note : Body elongate and compressed. Body depth 4.4 to 6.2 times in standard length. Head depressed. Occipital process long, not extending to basal bone of dorsal fin. 4 pair barbels, maxillary barbels extend to anal fin. Adipose fin considerably behind dorsal fin. Colour greyish brown with white belly.

Geographic Distribution : India : Assam, Bengal, Bihar, Orissa and Maharashtra; Nepal, Bangladesh and Burma.

Collection : Kila Bander, Bassein (Thane).

42. *Mystus seenghala* (Sykes)

1839. *Platystoma seenghala* Sykes, *Trans.Zool.Soc.London*, 2, p.371, pl.65, fig.2 (Type-loc : Mota Mula river at Poona).

1878. *Macrones seenghala* : Day, *Fishes of India*, p.444, pl.XCIX, fig. 1.

Common Name : Giant river catfish. **Local Name** : Singala.

Systematic Note : Body graceful, elongate and compressed. Body depth 5 to 7 times in standard length. 4 pair of barbels. Maxillary barbels extend to pelvic fin and beyond to anal fin. Dorsal spine weakly serrated on its posterior edge. Adipose fin base short. Colour grey with silvery on sides and belly.

Geographic Distribution : India : Ganga, Yamuna, Krishna, Godawari and Cauvery river systems. Pakistan, Afghanistan, Nepal and Bangladesh.

Collection : Uran Khadi (Raigad).

43. *Aorichthys aor* (Ham.)

1822. *Pimelodus aor* Hamilton, *Fishes of Ganges*, p.205, 379, pl.20, fig.68. (Type-loc : Rivers of Bengal and Upper parts of Gangetic estuaries).

1878. *Macrones aor* : *Fishes of India*, p.444.

Common Name : Long whiskered catfish. *Local Name* : Shingala.

Systematic Note : Body graceful, elongate and compressed. Body depth 4 to 5.2 times in standard length. Snout broad and rounded. 4 pair of barbels Maxillary pair extend to base of caudal fin or slightly beyond. Dorsal spine finely serrated on its posterior edge. Adipose fin long. Colour dark bluish.

Geographic Distribution : India—Upto Krishna river system. Pakistan, Bangladesh, Nepal and Upper Burma.

Collection : Uran Khadi (Raigad).

Family : SILURIDAE

44. *Ompok bimaculatus* (Bloch)

1797. *Silurus bimaculatus* Bloch, *Ichthyol. Hist. Nat. Poiss.* part 2, p.17, pl.364. (Type-loc : Malabar).

1875. *Callichrous bimaculatus* : *Fishes of India*, p.476, pl.CX, fig.4 & 5.

Common Name : Butter catfish. *Local Name* : Wanz, Valanj.

Systematic Note : Body elongate and strongly compressed. Mouth large and oblique. Barbels 2 pairs; maxillary barbels long and extend to or slightly beyond anal fin origin. Anal fin long with 57–58 branched rays. Pectoral spine moderately strong. feebly serrated on its inner edge.

Geographic Distribution : India, Pakistan, Afghanistan, Sri Lanka, Bangladesh, Burma, China, Thailand, Sumatra, Borneo and Java.

Collection : Danoli (Ratnagiri).

Family : HETEROPNEUSTIDAE

45. *Heteropneustes fossilis* (Bloch)

1794. *Silurus fossilis* Bloch, *Auslandische Fische*, Berlin, 6, p.370, fig.2.
(Type-loc Tranquebar).

1976. *Heteropneustes fossilis* : Misra, *Fauna of India*, Pisces (2nd ed.), 3 : 135,
fig.24.

Common Name : Stinging catfish. *Local Name* : Bitchu ka machi.

Systematic Note : Body elongate with head depressed. Occipital process not extending to base of dorsal fin. 4 well developed pair of barbels. Pectoral fin with a strong spine serrated along its inner edge. Anal fin long, separated by a distinct notch in caudal fin. Colour : Leaden above, lighter below.

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

Collection : Danoli (Ratnagiri).

Order : MYCTOPHIFORMES

Family : SYNODIDAE

46. *Saurida tumbil* (Bloch)

1795. *Salmo tumbil* Bloch, *Naturges ausland Fische*. 9 : 112, pl. 430. (Type-loc :
Malabar).

1877. *Saurida tumbil* : Day, *Fishes of India*, 504, pl.117. fig.6.

Common Name : Greater Lizard-fish. *Local Name* : Chorbombil.

Systematic Note : Body elongate and cylindrical with lizard like head. Mouth large. Dorsal fin with 11–13 rays. Pectoral fin with 14–15 rays, reaching to pelvic fin base. Colour : Black to brownish.

Geographic Distribution : Tropical Indo-West Pacific.

Collection : Mirkarwada (Ratnagiri), Jaigad (Raigad).

It is regularly caught in the coastal waters.

Family : HARPADONTIDAE

47. *Harpodon nehereus* (Ham–Buch)

1822. *Osmerus nehereus* Hamilton–Buchanan, *Fishes of Ganges* : 209. (Type-loc :
Mouth of river Ganges).

1877. *Harpodon nehereus* : Day, *Fishes of India*, 505, pl. 118, fig. 1.

Common Name : Bombay duck. *Local Name* : Bombil.

Systematic Note : Body elongate, compressed and soft. Eyes very small and covered by adipose membrane. Mouth wide with slender recurved teeth of unequal size. Adipose fin present. Pectoral fin long, tip reaching beyond level of pelvic-fin origin. Colour : Uniform light grey.

Geographic Distribution : Indo-West Pacific.

Collection : Panchoo Bander & Satpati Bay, Palghar (Thane) ; Uran Khadi (Raigad). This is one of the most important fishes of Maharashtra and contributes over 16% of the total marine catch in the state. The catch is usually landed in the Satpati-Dahanu areas. The season is from Sept–June and Oct–Dec. when the fish is caught by bag nets (“Dols”) and is usually sun-dried for transport to interior places.

Order : ATHERINIFORMES
 Suborder : EXOCOETOIDEI
 Family : HEMIRAMPHIDAE

48. *Hyporhamphus limbatus* (Val.)

1846. *Hemiramphus limbatus* Valenciennes, *Hist.nat.Poiss.*, 19 : 44. (Typ—loc : Malabar Coast, Bombay, Pondicherry).

1877. *Hemiramphus limbatus* : Day, *Fishes of India*, 516, pl.119, fig.3.

Common Name : Short-nosed halfbeak. **Local Name** : Toli, Sumb.

Systematic Note : Body somewhat compressed with greatly prolonged beak like lower jaw. Upper jaw short. Teeth minute and tricuspid. Dorsal fin with 12 to 16 soft rays. Origin of pelvic fin midway between front border of eye and base of caudal fin. Colour : Greenish with belly silvery.

Geographic Distribution : Persian gulf, Sri Lanka, Philippines and China.

Collection : Uran Khadi (Raigad).

This constitutes a seasonal fishery.

Family : BELONIDAE

49. *Strongylura strongylura* (Van Hasselt)

1823. *Belone strongylura* Van Hasselt, *Alg. Konst.en letterbode*, 1 : 130. (Type-loc : Vizagapatnam).

1877. *Belone strongylura* : Day, *Fishes of India* : 512, pl.118, fig. 6.

Common Name : Roundtail Needlefish. **Local Name** : Tol.

Systematic Note : Body elongate. Upper and lower jaws greatly elongated and studded with sharp teeth. Eyes small. Origin of dorsal above 4th ray of anal fin. Dorsal fin with 12–14 soft rays. Colour : Bluish-green above, silvery below with a prominent black spot at base of caudal fin.

Geographic Distribution : Tropical Indo-West Pacific.

Collection : Satpati beach and Kila bander (Thane).

There are usually caught in shore waters with the help of gill nets.

Suborder : ATHERINOIDEI

Family : ATHERINIDAE

50. *Atherinomorus lacunosus* (Forster)

1801. *Atherina lacunosa* Forster, in Bloch & Schneider, *Syst. Ichthyol.* : 112 (Type-loc : Moreton Bay, Queensland).

1876. *Atherina forskalii* Ruppell : *Fishes of India* : 345, pl.71, fig.4.

Common Name : Broad-banded Silverside.

Systematic Note : Body subcylindrical and laterally compressed. Teeth on jaws small and villiform. Dentary gently sloping upwards and backwards but never elevated posteriorly. Two widely separated dorsal fins. Mid-lateral scale count 39–44.

Colour : Blue-green and translucent in life. Mid lateral stripe wide.

Geographic Distribution : Indo-West Pacific.

Collection : Near Atava vill. (Ratnagiri).

They are small sized fishes which congregate in large schools.

Suborder : CYPRINODONTOIDEI

Family : APLOCHEILIDAE

51. *Aplocheilus lineatus* (Val.)

1846. *Panchax lineatum* Valenciennes, *Hist. Nat. Poissons.* Paris, 18, p.381. (Type-loc : Bombay).

1876. *Haplochilus lineatum* : Day, *Fishes of India*, p.527, pl.CXXI. fig.6.

Common Name : Striped top minnow. **Local Name** : Pikoo.

Systematic Note : Body elongate and compressed posteriorly. Eyes large. Mouth terminal. Anal fin rays 15 or 16. Pelvic fin with its second ray elongate reaching to about middle of anal fin. Scales 32-34 in longitudinal series. Colour : Males olive brown, flanks paler, rows of metallic golden green and red spots on body. Female darker than males.

Geographic Distribution : Western and south eastern India.

Collection : Savitri River, Mahad (Raigad) ; Jaigad, Dapoli (Ratnagiri).

52. *Aplocheilus panchax* (Ham.)

1822. *Esox panchax* Hamilton, *Fish Ganges*, pp.211, 380, pl.3, fig. 69. (Type-loc : ditches and ponds of Bengal).

1876. *Haplochilus panchax* : Day, *Fishes of India*, p.523, pl.CXXI. fig.3.

Common Name : Lasser minnow, Pahchax minnow. **Local Name** : Pikoo.

Systematic Note : Body elongate and compressed posteriorly. Eyes large, 3.3 times in head length. Mouth terminal. Anal fin almost square-shaped. Pelvic fin small without any elongated ray. 30–34 scales in longitudinal series. Colour : Greenish with dull white on flanks and belly.

A distinct white occipital spot. Females rather colourless.

Geographic Distribution : India : mainly north and Pakistan : Lower Indus plain ; Bangladesh ; Burma and the Indo-Malayan Archipelago.

Collection : Dapoli (Ratnagiri).

Order : CHANNIFORMES

Family : CHANNIDAE

53. *Channa orientalis* Bloch & Schn.

1801. *Channa Orientalis* Bloch & Schneider, *Syst. Ichthyol* 496 (Type-loc : India Orientale) ; Day, 1876, *Fishes of India*, p.368, pl. LXXVIII, fig.2.

1960. *Ophiocephalus gachua* : DeWitt, *Stanford Ichth. Bull.* 7 (14) : 81.

Common Name : Snake-head. **Local Name** : Maral.

Systematic Note : Body elongate. Eyes 5 to 6 times in head length. Mouth large with lower jaw having 10 to 20 canines behind a single row of villiform teeth. Pectoral fin extend to anal fin. Pelvic fin less than 50% of pectoral fin length. 4–5 head scale rows between preopercular angle and posterior border of orbit. Predorsal scale 12. Colour green with ventral side pale. Pectoral fins with a series of alternating blue and orange vertical bands.

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

Collection : Khopoli, Pen and Mahad (Raigad); Danoli (Ratnagiri).

Order : PERCIFORMES

Suborder : PERCOIDEI

Family : SERRANIDAE

Subfamily : EPINEPHELINAE

54. *Epinephelus diacanthus* (Val.)

1828. *Serranus diacanthus* Valenciennes, *Hist.nat.Poiss.*, 2 : 319 (Type-loc : Malabar); Day, 1875, *Fishes of India* : 17, pl.3, fig. 4.

Common Name : Six barred reef cod. **Local Name** : Gobra, Hekru.

Systematic Note : A medium sized serranid. Preoperculum finely serrated behind and armed with 2 strong spines. Operculum with 3 flat spines. Dorsal fin

with 11 spines and 15–17 soft rays. Anal fin with 3 spines and 8 soft rays. Ctenoid scales. Colour brownish with 6 dark brown broad vertical bars.

Geographic Distribution : Widespread in the Indo-Pacific region.

Collection : Atava village, 5 kms. of NW of Ratnagiri.

They mainly inhabit rocky shores and are commonly caught off the Bombay coast.

Family : TERAPONIDAE

55. *Terapon jarbua* (Forsskal)

1775. *Sciaena jarbua* Forsskal, *Descript. Animalium* : 50 (Type-loc : Djedda, Red sea).

1875. *Therapon jarbua* : Day, *Fishes of India* : 69, pl. 18, fig.4.

1978. *Terapon jarbua* : Vari, *Bull.Am.Mus.nat.Hist.*, 159 : 255, fig. 47.

Common Name : Jarbua Terapon. **Local Name** : Navera.

Systematic Note : Small sized. Body moderately deep and slightly compressed. Gill rakers 12–15 on lower arm of first arch. Dorsal fin notched with 11–12 spines. Anal fin with 3 spines and 7–10 soft rays. Colour : Silvery greyish blue and white below with 3 or 4 longitudinal stripes along side of body. Caudal fin with dark tips and 3 horizontal or oblique stripes.

Geographic Distribution : Indo-West Pacific region.

Collection : Panchoo bandar, Basscin (Thane) ; Murud Khadi, Roha (Raigad), Mirya bandar, 8 km NW of Ratnagiri (Ratnagiri).

This fish is found near the shore and also moves upstream (in fresh-water) where it breeds.

Family : SILLAGINIDAE

56. *Sillago sihama* (Forsskal)

1775. *Atherina sihama* Forsskal, *Descript. Animal* : 70. (Type-loc : Lohaja, Red Sea).

1876. *Sillago sihama* : *Fishes of India*, 265, pl. 57, , fig. 3.

Common Name : Silver Sillago. **Local Name** : Renvi.

Systematic Note : Body elongate, snout pointed. Mouth small and terminal. 2 dorsal fin. The first with 22 spines and the second with 1 spine and 20–23 soft rays. Anal fin with 2 spines. Colour : Back is light brown and belly whitish without dark blotches. Dorsal and caudal fins dusky.

Geographic Distribution : Indo-West Pacific.

Collection : Jaigad (Ratnagiri).

This species is commonly found in estuaries. It is one of the popular food fish of Maharashtra.

Family : LACTARIIDAE

57. *Lactarius lactarius* (Schn.)

1801. *Scomber lactarius* Schneider, *Syst. Ichthy. Bloch* : 31 (Type-loc : Tranquebar).

1876. *Lactarius delicatulus* Valenciennes, *Day Fishes of India* : 245, pl. 53, fig. 2.

Common Name : False trevally. *Local Name* : Saundala.

Systematic Note : Body oblong and strongly compressed. Head large. Mouth large and oblique. 2 dorsal fins, the first with 7 or 8 spines, the second with 1 spine and 20–22 soft rays. Pectoral fins long and pointed. Colour : Silvery with bluish iridescence. A dusky spot on upper part of operculum.

Geographic Distribution : Tropical Indo-West Pacific.

Collection : Jaigad (Ratnagiri).

This is a very common fish preferring sandy bottom along the coast. It is caught by trawl and drift nets.

Family : CARANGIDAE

58. *Alepes djedaba* (Forsskal)

1775. *Scomber djedaba* Forsskal, *Descript. Animal* : 56 (Type-loc : Djedaba, Red Sea).

1876. *Caranx djedaba* : Day, *Fishes of India* : 218, pl.49, fig. 3.

Common Name : Djedaba Crevalle. *Local Name* : Shitap.

Systematic Note : Body compressed and oblong. Dorsal and ventral profile equally convex. Teeth villiform, in a single series in the jaws. 2 dorsal fins (first with a procumbent spine and 8 normal spines ; second fin with 1 spine and 23–25 soft rays). Lateral line strongly arched anteriorly to below 2nd to 4th soft dorsal ray. Colour : Bluish with silvery below, with a distinct spot on upper edge of operculum.

Geographic Distribution : Indo-West Pacific.

Collection : Rajvada bandar (Ratnagiri).

It inhabits coastal waters and is caught in small quantities.

59. *Alepes para* (Cuvier)

1833. *Caranx para*, *Hist.nat.Poiss.*, 9 : 58 (Type-loc : Malabar).

1876. *Caranx kalla* : Day, (nec. Cuvier), *Fishes of India* : 219, pl.49, fig. 5.

Common Name : Goggie-eye Scad. *Local Name* : Kala Bangada.

Systematic Note : Body oblong and moderately compressed. Ventral profile much more convex than dorsal profile. Upper jaw extending to below anterior third of eye. Two dorsal fins (first dorsal with a procumbent spine and 8 normal spines ; second dorsal fin with 1 spine and 23–24 soft rays). Lateral line moderately arched anteriorly to below 4th to 6th soft dorsal ray with 40–46 scales. Colour : Greenish silvery with a distinct black spot on operculum.

Geographic Distribution : Central Indo-Pacific region.

Collection : Vengurla (Ratnagiri).

60. *Decapterus russellii* (Ruppell)

1828. *Caranx russellii* Ruppell, *Atlas Reise Nordl. Africa, Fische Rothen Meeres* : 99 (Type-loc : Red Sea).

1876. *Caranx kurra* : Day (nec Cuvier), *Fishes of India* : 214, pl. 48, Fig. 5.

Common Name : Round–scad. **Local Name** : Shitap.

Systematic Note : Body elongate, fusiform, its depth 4.2 to 4.7 times in standard length. Upper jaw reaching to below front margin of eye. Teeth on tongue obsolete. First dorsal fin with 8 spines, second dorsal fin with 1 spines. Anal fin with 2 detached spines, followed by 1 spine and 28–30 soft rays.

Body bluish-green dorsally and silvery on sides.

Geographic Distribution : Tropical Indo-West Pacific.

Collection : Jaigad (Ratnagiri).

It is caught seasonally (Dec–Feb.).

61. *Megalaspis cordyla* (Linn.)

1758. *Scomber cordyla* Linnaeus, *Systema Naturae*, 1 (ed. 10), 298. (Type-loc : America).

1876. *Caranx rotterli* Cuvier, Day, *Fishes of India* : 213.

Common Name : Hardtail scad. **Local Name** : Karkata bangada.

Systematic Note : Body elongate and fusiform, its depth 3.8 to 4.0 times in standard length. Teeth feeble in jaws, in upper jaw in a band and in lower jaw in a single row. Anal fin with 2 detached spines, followed by 1 spine and 10 soft rays and 6 to 8 finlets. Lateral line strongly curved with 53–58 well developed and keeled scutes. Colour : Body bluish-green above, silvery white below. A prominent black spot on posterior edge of operculum.

Geographic Distribution : Tropical Indo-West Pacific.

Collection : Kila bandar (Thane) ; Jaigad (Ratnagiri).

It inhabits coastal waters. It is not a popular fish but acceptable to many after it is cured with salt.

Family : LUTJANIDAE

62. *Lutjanus johni* (Bloch)

1792. *Anthias johni* Bloch, *Naturges ausland, Fische*, 6 : 113. 318 (Type-loc : Surat).

1875. *Lutjanus johnii* : Day, *Fishes of India* : 42, pl.13; fig.1.

Common Name : John's snapper. **Local Name** : Chavri tamb.

Systematic Note : Moderately deep-bodied. A very slight preopercular notch and no inter opercular knob. Teeth small in narrow bands in jaws. Teeth on vomer small, in shaped patch. Dorsal fin with 10 strong spines and 13–14 soft rays. Scales large. Lt. line with 48–50 scales. Longitudinal scale rows above lateral line parallel to it and those below lateral line horizontal. Colour : Body silvery green with distinct dark spot on each scale.

Geographic Distribution : Indo-West Pacific region.

Collection : Kila bandar, Bassein (Thane), Rajvada Bandar (Ratnagiri).

It inhabits coastal waters and forms a minor fisher resource.

Family : POMADASYIDAE

63. *Rhonciscus anas* (Val.)

1862. *Pristipoma anas* Valenciennes, *Compt. Rendu Acad.Sci., Paris*, 54 : 9 (Type-loc : Madagascar).

1875. *Pristipoma dussumieri* Cuvier : Day, *Fishes of India* : 75, pl. 19, fig. 6.

Common Name : Banded grunter. **Local Name** : Karkara.

Systematic Note : Body oblong and compressed, its depth 2.3 to 2.4 times in standard length. Mouth oblique with the maxilla extending to below front border of pupil or slightly beyond. Dorsal fin with 12 spines and 14–16 soft rays. Lateral line scales 50–60. Six longitudinal golden or dark bands along flanks.

Geographic Distribution : Indian Ocean.

Collection : Seashore near Bhatya village (Ratnagiri).

It forms a minor fishery.

Family : SPARIDAE

64. *Acanthopagrus berda* (Forsskal)

1775. *Sparus berda* Forsskal, *Descript. Animal* : 32 (Type-loc : Arabia).

1875. *Chrysophrys berda* : Day, *Fishes of India*, 140, pl. 34, fig. 2.

Common Name : Picnic seabream. **Local Name** : Kharva.

Systematic Note : Body deep and compressed, its depth less than 2.4 times in standard length. Head large. 4–6 canine teeth in front of either jaw. Dorsal fin with 11 spines and 11–12 soft rays. Scales large. Six rows of scales on preoperculum. Colour : Dusky grey above, silvery white below.

Geographic Distribution : Tropical Indo-Pacific.

Collection : Rajvada Bandar (Ratnagiri).

These are bottom dwelling fish found in coastal waters. It forms a minor fishery.

Family : SCIAENIDAE

65. *Dendrophysa russelli* (Cuvier)

1830. *Umbrina russellii* Cuvier, *Hist. nat. Poiss.*, 5 : 178 (Type-loc : Vizagapatnam) ; Day, 1876, *Fishes of India* : 183, pl. 43, fig. 4.

1923. *Umbrina indica* Chaudhuri, *Mem. Indian Mus.*, 5 : 725.

Common Name : Goatce-croaker. **Local Name** : Dhoma.

Systematic Note : A small species with snout rounded and projecting slightly beyond tip of upper jaw. Mouth inferior. A single barbel on the chin. Dorsal fin with 10 spines followed by a deep notch. 2nd part of fin with 1 spine and 25–28 soft rays. Anal fin with 2 spines and 7 soft rays. Caudal fin rhomboid. Colour : Back is grey with belly being white.

Geographic Distribution : India, Sri Lanka.

Collection : Talaja Khadi, Panvel, Karjat (Raigad).

It is found in coastal waters. It is a poor man's fish and usually eaten after being sun dried and cured.

66. *Johnius belangerii* (Cuvier)

1830. *Corvina belangerii* Cuvier, *Hist. nat. Poiss.*, 5 : 120 (Type-loc : Pondicherry).

1876. *Sciaena belangeri* : Day, *Fishes of India* : 191, pl.44, fig. 5.

Common Name : Belanger's croaker. **Local Name** : Dhoma.

Systematic Note : A medium sized fish with a steeply rounded snout. Mouth is small, inferior. There are no barbels on chin. Gill rakers short, 8 or 9 on lower arm of the first arch. Dorsal fin with 9 spines, followed by a deep notch. 2nd part of fin with 1 spine and 27–31 soft rays. Caudal fin shomboid. Colour : Back is darkly pigmented.

Geographic Distribution : Arabian sea.

Collection : Panchoo bandar, Bassein (Thane), Mirkarwada (Ratnagiri).

It is also found in the coastal waters and is common in catches.

67. *Johnius elongatus* Mohan

1976. *Johnius elongatus* Mohan, *Matsya*, (1) : 19, fig. 1. (Type-loc : Veraval, Gujarat).

Common Name : Mohan's croaker.

Systematic Note : Small and slender species with a swollen snout projecting beyond the ventral mouth. 5 pores on the chin, surrounded by thickened skin, produced into 2 short and irregular tags. Gill rakers short, 6–7 on lower arm of first arch. Dorsal fin with 10 or 11 spines. Caudal fin rhomboid. Colour : Greyish back, flank and belly silvery.

Geographic Distribution : Indian West coast.

Collection : Panchoo bandar, Basscin (Thane).

It inhabits coastal waters and is common fishery item.

68. *Kathela axillaris* (Cuvier)

1830. *Corvina axillaris* Cuvier, *Hist.nat.Poiss.*, 5 : 113 (Type-loc : Malabar).

1876. *Sciaena axillaris* : Day, *Fishes of India* : 188, pl. 43, fig. 6.

Common Name : Kathala Croaker. **Local Name** : Dhoma.

Systematic Note : Medium sized with a fairly deep body. Snout rounded, mouth terminal and oblique. Upper jaw extends to hind edge of pupil. Gill rakers lanceolate, 19–24 on lower arm of first arch. Dorsal fin with 9–10 spines. Caudal fin truncate. Colour : Greyish on back, flanks yellow silvery. A black spot on the pectoral fin avil.

Geographic Distribution : Indian coasts.

Collection : Panchoo bandar, Bassein (Thane), Atava village, 8km NW of Ratnagiri.

It is found in the shallow coastal waters.

69. *Nibea maculata* (Schn.)

1801. *Johnius maculatus* Schneider, *Syst. Ichth. Bloch*, 75. (Type-loc : Tranquebar).

1876. *Sciaena maculata* : Day, *Fishes of India* : 190.

Common Name : Blotched-Croaker.

Systematic Note : A medium sized species with snout projecting beyond the upper jaw. Mouth is inferior. Gill rakers 4–9 on lower arm of first arch. Dorsal fin with 10 spines. Anal fin with 2 spines and 7 soft rays. Colour : 5 dark blotches on sides. Sixth dark blotch on top of caudal peduncle. The blotches may be broken or entire.

Geographic Distribution : Indian coast.

Collection : Satpati River, Palghar (Thane), Mirkarwada, 25 km NW of Ratnagiri (Ratnagiri).

This is a coastal inhabitant.

70. *Otolithoides biauritus* (Cantor)

1850. *Otolithus biauritus* Cantor, *J. Asiat. Soc. Beng.*, 18 (2) : 1039. (Type-loc : Penang, Malay Peninsula).

1876. *Sciaenoides biauritus*, Day, *Fishes of India*, 194, pl.47. fig. 1.

Common Name : Bronze-Croaker. **Local Name** : Koth.

Systematic Note : A large species with an acute snout. Mouth large and terminal, the upper jaw extending well beyond eye. Gill rakers 11 or 12 on lower arm of first arch. Dorsal fin with 8 or 9 spines. Anal fin with 2 spines and 7 or 8 soft rays. Caudal fin lanceolate. Colour : Head and back grey and flanks silvery.

Geographic Distribution : India, Burma, Malay Peninsula.

Collection : Panchoo bandar; Bassein (Thane).

This is a large sized fish and forms an important fishery in this region.

71. *Otolithes cuvieri* Trewavas

1876. *Otolithus ruber* Day (nec. Schneider) (Part), *Fishes of India* : 196.

1974. *Otolithes cuvieri* Trewavas, *FAO. Species identification sheets*, 3 : SCIAEN Otol 1 (Type-loc : Malabar ; Karachi).

Common Name : Lesser tiger-toothed croaker. **Local Name** : Dhoma.

Systematic Note : A slender fish with depth 3.2 to 4.5 times in standard length. Mouth large and terminal with lower jaw projecting. Gill rakers 12 to 14 on lower arm of first arch. Dorsal fin with 10 spines. Caudal fin rhomboid but with tip pointed. Colour : Brownish grey above, silvery on flanks.

Geographic Distribution : India, Pakistan and Sri Lanka.

Collection : Kila and Panchoo bandar (Thane), Jaigad (Ratnagiri).

This is a coastal and inshore inhabitant which is relished by the local people.

72. *Otolithes ruber* (Schn.)

1801. *Johnius ruber* Schneider, *Syst. Ichth. Bloch* : 75, pl. 17. (Type-loc : Tranquebar).

1876. *Otolithus argenteus* Kuhl & Van Hasselt : Day, *Fishes of India* : 197, pl. 45, fig. 3.

Common Name : Tiger-toothed Croaker. **Local Name :** Dhoma.

Systematic Note : A slender fish with depth 4 to 5 times in standard length. Mouth is large and terminal with lower jaw slightly projecting. Gill rakers 8 to 11 on lower arm of first arch. Dorsal fin with 9 or 10 spines. Colour : Silvery.

Geographical Distribution : Throughout the Indian Ocean, East coast of Africa and the Indo-Australian Archipelago.

Collection : Kila and Panchoo bandar (Thane) ; Varsoli bandar 4 km. N. of Alibag (Raigad).

This is the most abundantly found coastal sciaenid fish.

73. *Paranibea semiluctuosa* (Cuvier)

1830. *Corvina semiluctuosa* Cuvier, *Hist. nat. Poiss.* 5 : 106. (Type-loc : Goa, Malabar, Pondicherry).

1876. *Sciaena semiluctuosa*, Day, *Fishes of India*, 191.

Common Name : Half-mourning Croaker. **Local Name :** Dhoma.

Systematic Note : A fairly small fish. The dorsal profile much more arched than the ventral profile. Snout slightly projecting before the upper jaw. Gill rakers 5 to 8 on lower arm of first arch. Dorsal fin with 10 or 11 spines. Caudal fin rhomboid. Colour : Dark with series of narrow stripes along the body. Pelvic and anal fin dark.

Geographic Distribution : Indian Ocean.

Collection : Mirkarwada (Ratnagiri).

This is a fairly common coastal fish.

Family : SCATOPHAGIDAE

74. *Scatophagus argus* (Linn.)

1766. *Chaetodon argus* Linnaeus, *Systema Naturae*, ed. 12, 1 : 464. (Type-loc. : India).

1875. *Scatophagus argus*, Day, *Fishes of India* : 114, pl. 29, fig. 3.

Common Name : Spotted butterfly. **Local Name :** Wada.

Systematic Note : Squarish body with triangular head projecting anteriorly. Mouth small, not protrusible. Dorsal fin notched with 11 strong spines. Numerous black blotches over the entire body except belly.

Geographic Distribution : India, Sri Lanka, China Queensland.

Collection : Polynard village, Alibag (Raigad).

This is a popular aquarium fish found amongst rocks and reefs of our coastal waters. It does not form a fishery as such.

Family : CICHLIDAE

75. *Tilapia mossambica* (Peters)

1852. *Chromis mossambicus*, Peters, *Monatsb. Akad. Wiss.*, Berlin, p.681. (Type-loc : Zambesi river, S. Africa).

Local Name : Tilapia.

Systematic Note : Body short with head compressed with concave upper profile. Abdomen rounded. Mouth terminal and large. Snout rounded. Lips thin. Scales cycloid. Anal fin with 3 or 4 spines. Lateral line incomplete.

Geographical Distribution : Wide spread in India and Pakistan; East Africa to Natal.

Collection : Talaja Khadi, Panvel (Raigad).

Remarks : It is an exotic species.

Family : ANABANTIDAE

76. *Anabas testudineus* (Bloch)

1795. *Anthias testudineus* Bloch, *Naturg. Ausland. Fische*. 6, pl. 121, pl. 322. (Type-loc : Japan "East Indies").

1878. *Anabas scandens* : Day, *Fishes of India*, p.370, pl. LXXVIII, fig. 3.

Common Name : Climbing Perch.

Systematic Note : Body oblong and compressed. Abdomen rounded. Snout blunt. Mouth small and terminal. Eyes large, not visible fin below. Single dorsal fin, inserted above the pectoral fin base with 17 or 18 spines and 8 or 10 rays. Pectoral fin long with 13–15 rays.

Systematic Distribution : Fresh and brackish waters of Asia and Africa.

Collection : Talaja Khadi, Panvel (Raigad).

Suborder : MUGILOIDEI

Family : MUGILIDAE

77. *Liza macrolepis* (Smith)

1849. *Mugil macrolepis* Smith, *Illust. Zool. S. Africa*, 4 : pl. 28, fig. 2. (Type-loc : S. Africa).

1876. *Mugil poecilus* : Day, *Fishes of India* : 351, pl. 75, fig. 4.

Common Name : Borneo-mullet. *Local Name* : Boi.

Systematic Note : Body robust, head wide, its length 26–38 % of standard

length. 2 widely separated dorsal fins, the first with 4 spines and second fin with 1 spine and 8 soft rays. Pelvic fin reaches behind base of fourth spine of first dorsal fin. 13 transverse rows of scales. Colour : Dark green above and silvery on sides.

Geographic Distribution : Tropical Indo-west pacific.

Collection : Talaja Khadi and Kasarbhat, Panvel (Raigad).

This is present in freshwater as well as brackish waters and forms an important fishery.

78. *Liza tade* (Forsk.)

1775. *Mugil crenilabris tade* Forskal, *Descript. Animal* : 74. (Type-loc : Arabia).

1876. *Mugil planiceps valenciennes* : Day, *Fishes of India* : 350.

Common Name : Tade grey mullet. *Local Name* : Boi.

Systematic Note : Body is slender and elongate. Head depressed, length 19–25% of standard length. Second dorsal fin origin on vertical more than half along anal-fin base. 11 transverse rows of scales. Colour : Pale olive with silvery on sides.

Geographic Distribution : Red Sea, Indian coast to China.

Collection : Murud Khadi, Roha; Drevali, Pen (Raigad).

This is not very common in these waters.

79. *Liza vaigiensis* (Quoy & Gaimard)

1824. *Mugil Vaigiensis* Quoy and Gaimard, *Voy. 'Uranie' et physic. Zool.* : 337, pl. 59, fig. 2. (Type-loc : Waigiu).

1876. *Mugil waigiensis* : Day, *Fishes of India* : 359, pl. 73, fig. 4.

Common Name : Diamond-scale grey mullet. *Local Name* : Boi.

Systematic Note : Body robust. Head broad and flattened. Length 24–27% of standard length. Anal fin with 3 spines and 8 rays. 24–27 lateral line scales. Colour : Olive brown with sides being silvery.

Geographic Distribution : Tropical Indo-West Pacific.

Collection : Bhatya hill (Ratnagiri).

This fish is common in catches.

80. *Valamugil speigleri* (Bleeker)

1858. *Mugil speigleri* Bleeker, *Nat. Tijdschr. Ned-Indie*, 16 : 279. (Type-loc : Java) ; Day, 1876, *Fishes of India* : 348, pl. 74, fig. 1.

Common Name : Speigler's grey-mullet. *Local Name* : Boir.

Systematic Note : Body robust, head flattened above, its length 23–24% of standard length. 2 widely separated dorsal fins ; the first fin with 4 spines and second fin with 1 spine and 8 soft rays. Anal fin with 3 spines and 9 soft rays. Lateral line scales 37–40. Colour : Dark green with belly silvery.

Geographic Distribution : Indian coast upto west central pacific.

Collection : Satpati beach, 9 km. W. of Palghar (Thane) ; Polynard village, Alibag (Raigad).

This is a common fish.

Suborder : POLYNEMOIDEI

Family : POLYNEMIDAE

81. *Polydactylus heptadactylus* (Cuvier)

1829. *Polynemus heptadactylus* Cuvier, *Hist. nat. Poiss.*, 3 : 390. (Type-loc : Batavia) ; Day, 1876, *Fishes of India* : 177, pl. 42, fig. 5.

Common Name : Seven finger-threadfin. **Local Name** : Shendya-rawas.

Systematic Note : Body oblong. Mouth large. Eyes large. 2 widely separated dorsal fins. Pectoral fin with 7 free filamentous rays. Caudal fin forked. Colour : Body golden with a very distinct shoulder spot.

Geographic Distribution : Indian coast.

Collection : Panchoo Bandar, Bassein (Thane), Urankhadi (Raigad).

This is a coastal species and is present in large numbers in the catches.

Suborder : SCOMBROIDEI

Family : TRICHIURIDAE

82. *Lepturacanthus savala* (Cuvier)

1829. *Trichiurus savala* Cuvier, *Rengne Animal*, 2, ed. 2 : 219 (Type-loc : "Merdes Indies"—Bombay and Malabar); Day, 1876, *Fishes of India* : 201, pl. 47, fig. 4 ; James, 1967, *Mem.Mar.Biol.Ass.India*, (1) : 24, fig. 3D.

Common Name : Small-headed ribbon fish. **Local Name** : Wagti.

Systematic Note : Body very long and strongly compressed, ribbon-like. Mouth large with fang-like teeth. Dorsal fin with 110–117 rays. Pectoral fin with 1 unserrated spine and 10 soft rays. Pelvic and caudal fins absent. Colour : Steel blue.

Geographic Distribution : India, Thailand, China, Japan.

Collection : Satpati beach, Palghar (Thane); Uran Khadi (Raigad). These fishes breed in June when they migrate into off-shore waters. They are caught in 'Dol'

nets, trawl nets 'rampans' and usually sundried and salted. They constitute the poor man's food and are not much in demand in the coastal areas.

83. *Trichiurus lepturus* Linn.

1758. *Trichiurus lepturus* Linnaeus (Partim) (ex.Arteidi), *Systema Naturae*, ed. 10 : 246. (Type-loc : South Carolina).

1876. *Trichiurus haumela* (Foresskal) : Day, *Fishes of India* : 201.

Common Name : Large-head ribbon fish. **Local Name** : Bala.

Systematic Note : Body very elongate and ribbon like. Head length 2.5 to 3.1 times in snout-vent distance, 6.7–7.6 times in total length. Dorsal fin with 3 spines and 131 to 136 soft rays. Pelvic and caudal fins absent. Colour : Steel blue.

Geographic Distribution : Cosmopolitan.

Collection : Uran Khadi (Raigad) : Rajwade Bandar (Ratnagiri).

This species is quite common along the coast. It also enters estuaries. It is one of the most important species from fishery point of view.

Family : SCOMBRIDAE

84. *Scomberomorus guttatus* (Bloch & Schn.)

1801. *Scomber guttatus* Bloch & Schneider, *Syst. Ichth* : 23, pl.5. (Type-loc : Tranquebar).

1876. *Cybium guttatum* : Day, *Fishes of India* : 255, pl. 55, fig. 1 ; pl. 56, fig. 4.

Common Name : Indo-pacific Spanish mackerel. **Local Name** : Surmai.

Systematic Note : Body elongate and strongly compressed. Lower arm of preoperculum projecting backwards. 2 dorsal fins. First dorsal fin with 15–17 spines. Lateral line without a prominent dip under the second dorsal fin. Colour : Iridescent blue with silvery sides.

Geographic Distribution : Indo-west Pacific.

Collection : Talaja Khadi, Panvel (Raigad).

This is a highly prized fish, very much in demand. Usually, they are found off-shore in the pelagic region, but during Nov–Jan they move in-shore along Ratnagiri coast where they are caught by surface gill-nets. They are cured and sent inland.

Suborder : STROMATEOIDEI

Family : STOMATEIDAE

85. *Pampus argenteus* (Euphrasen)

1788. *Stromateus argenteus* Euphrasen, *Kongl. Vetensk. Acad. Handl. Stockholm*, 9 : 49. (Type-loc : "Castellum Chinese Bocca Tigris dictum").

1876. *Stromateus cinereus* Bloch : Day, *Fishes of India* : 247, pl.53, fig. 3.

Common Name : Silver Pomfret. **Local Name** : Saranga, Paplet.

Systematic Note : Body very deep and compressed. Single dorsal fin. Pelvic fin absent. Caudal fin deeply forked. Dorsal and anal fins falcate preceded by 5 to 10 flat blade-like spines. Colour : Grey with silvery belly. Small dots all over the body.

Geographic Distribution : Persian Gulf to Japan.

Collection : Kila Bandar, Bassein, Panchoo Bandar, Satpati Bay (Thane dist.) ; Uran Khadi (Raigad).

It inhabits water over muddy bottom. It is one of the best table fish and is thus highly prized. It is caught in 'Dol' nets.

86. *Pampus chinensis* (Euphrasen)

1788. *Stromateus chinensis* Euphrasen, *Kengl. Vetensk. Acad. Handl. Stockholm* 9 : 53, fig. 9. (Type-loc : "Castellum Chinese Bocca Tigris dictum").

1876. *Stromateus sinensis* Euphrasen : Day, *Fishes of India* ; 246, pl. 51C, fig. 6.

Common Name : Chinese or grey pomfret. **Local Name** : Khalwad, Kafri saranga.

Systematic Note : Body very deep and compressed. Single dorsal fin. Dorsal and anal fins not falcate. No spines before the median fins. Caudal fin emarginate. Colour : Greyish brown.

Geographic Distribution : India, Pakistan to China.

Collection : Mirkarwada (Ratnagiri).

This fish is quite abundant in the these waters.

Suborder : GOBIOIDEI

Family : GOBIIDAE

87. *Glossogobius giuris* (Ham.)

1822. *Gobius giuris* Hamilton, *Fishes of Ganges* : 51, 366. (Type-loc : Ponds and freshwater rivers of Gangetic Provinces).

1876. *Gobius giuris* : Day, *Fishes of India* : 294 , pl. LXVII, fig. 1.

Common Name : Bar-eyed Goby. **Local Name** : Kharpa.

Systematic Note : Body elongate. Head depressed, pointed and scaled above behind the eyes. Eyes large, superior not visible fin below. Tongue bilobate. Pectoral fins without free silk-like rays. Pelvic fins united. Caudal fin oblong to rounded. 28–36 scales along the lateral series.

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

Collection : Kila bandar, Basscin (Thane).

88. *Bathygobius fusca* (Ruppell)

1828. *Gobius fuscus* Ruppell, *Atlas Reisse N. Afr. Fische* : 137.

1876. *Gobius albo-punctatus* : Day, *Fishes of India*, p. 294, pl. LXIII, fig. 7.

Systematic Note : Body elongate, anterior is subcylindrical while posterior part is compressed. Head depressed. Mouth slightly oblique. Tongue bilobate. Predorsal scales about 19. Lateral line scales 35–40.

Geographic Distribution : Tropical sea and estuaries.

Collection : Mirya bandar, 8 km. NW of Ratnagiri (Ratnagiri).

89. *Periophthalmus koelreuteri* (Pallas)

1828. *Gobius koelreuteri* Pallas, *Spic.* 8 p. 8.

1876. *Periophthalmus koelreuteri* : Day, *Fishes of India*, p. 303, pl. LXIV, fig. 8.

Common Name : Mud skipper.

Systematic Note : Body elongate, slightly compressed. Head short and compressed with scales behind eyes, cheek and opercle. Eyes close together. Lips thick. First dorsal fin higher than body, convex, with 10–17 rays. Pectoral fins with a muscular base. Predorsal scales 32–34.

Geographic Distribution : Tropical seas of Africa, Red Sea, Pacific.

Collection : Decogad (Sindhudurg).

90. *Boleophthalmus boddarti* (Pallas)

1828. *Gobius boddarti* Pallas, *Spicil.* 8, p. 11, pl. 2, fig. 4,5.

1876. *Boleophthalmus bodarti* : Day, *Fishes of India*, p. 307, pl. LXV, fig. 2.

Common Name : Mud skipper. *Local Name* : Nivti.

Systematic Note : Body very elongate and compressed. Head covered with a skin, scaled. Eyes very prominent, situated on top of head and close together. Tongue truncate. 2 dorsal fins separated by an interspace. Pectoral fins with muscular base. Pelvic fins united and oblong. Body with oblique bands.

Geographic Distribution : Indian coast, Pakistan, Bangladesh, Burma, Thailand, East Indies.

Collection : Kila and Panchoo bandar, Basscin (Thane).

91. *Boleophthalmus dussumieri* Val.

1876. *Boleophthalmus dussumieri* Val, *H. N. Poiss.* 12, p.207, pl. 354 ; Day, *Fishes of India*, p. 305, pl. LXIV, fig. 9.

Common Name : Mud skipper. *Local Name* : Nivti.

Systematic Note : Body without oblique bands.

Geographic Distribution : Indian coast, Pakistan, Iraq.

Collection : Kila and Panchoo bandar (Thane) ; Polynard vill. Alibag (Raigad).

Family : GOBIOIDIDAE

92. *Odontamblyopus rubicundus* (Ham.)

1822. *Gobioides rubicundus* Hamilton, *Fishes of India* : 37, 365, pl. 5, fig. 9.

Odontamblyopus rubicundus Koumans, *Mem. Indian Mus.*, 13 : 304 (Goa).

Systematic Note : The body is very elongate, eel-like and compressed. Head long and compressed. Mouth oblique. A row of 3 indistinct barbels on lower side of head on either side. 2 dorsal fins. Pelvic fin united, oblong. Caudal fin pointed and long.

Geographic Distribution : India to Japan.

Collection : Varsoli Bandar, 4 km. N. of Alibag (Raigad).

93. *Trypauchen vagina* (Bloch & Schn.)

1801. *Gobius vagina* Bloch, *Syst. Ichth.*, : 75.

1876. *Trypauchen vagina* : Day, *Fishes of India* : 320, pl. LXVIII, fig. 2.

Common Name : Burrowing Goby.

Systematic Note : Body very elongate and compressed. Head compressed, without scales, with a median crest on occiput. Eyes very small, covered by skin. 2 continuous dorsal fins. Anal and dorsal fins connected with caudal fin. 80–115 scales along lateral series.

Geographic Distribution : India, Pakistan, Bangladesh, China.

Collection : Uran Khadi ; Alibag creek (Raigad).

94. *Ctenotrypauchen microcephalus* (Bleeker)

1860. *Trypauchen microcephalus* Bleeker, *Act. Soc. Indo-Neeri*, 8 : 62.

1941. *Ctenotrypauchen microcephalus*, Koumans, *Mem. Indian Mus.*, 13 : 307 (Goa).

Systematic Note : Body very elongate and compressed. Abdomen rounded eyes small. 2 continuous dorsal fins. Pelvic fins united.

Geographical Distribution : Indian Coast.

Collection : Uran Khadi (Raigad).

Order : PLEURONECTIFORMES
 Suborder : PLEURONECTOIDEI
 Family : BOTHIDAE

95. *Pseudorhombus arsius* (Ham-Buch.)

1822. *Pleuronectes arsius* Hamilton-Buchanan, *Fishes of Ganges* : 128. (Type-Loc : Ganges estuary, below Calcutta).

1877. *Pseudorhombus arsius* : Day, *Fishes of India* : 423, pl. 91, fig. 5.

Common Name : Large-toothed flounder. *Local Name* : Lep.

Systematic Note : Body oval and flat. Both eyes on left side separated by a narrow bony ridge. Teeth strong. 6-13 teeth on blind side of lower jaw. Lateral line curved above pectoral fin, forming 2 branches on head. Colour : Brownish on ocular side with spots and blotches but a distinctive large blotch on anterior end of straight part of lateral line and a smaller blotch half-way to caudal fin base.

Geographic Distribution : Indo-west Pacific.

Collection : Jaigad bandar (Ratnagiri).

Suborder : SOLEODEI
 Family : SOLEIDAE

96. *Zebrias synapturoides* (Jenkins)

1910. *Synaptura synapturoides*, Jenkins, *Mem. Indian Mus.*, 3 : 28, pl. 3, fig. 4. (Type-loc : Off Ganjam Coast, Orissa).

1928 *Zebrias synapturoides* : Norman, *Rec. Indian Mus.*, 30 : 83, pl. 5.

Common Name : Zebra Sole.

Systematic Note : Body elongate and flat. Eyes on right side, nearly contiguous—mouth curved. Posterior rays of dorsal and anal fins joined only to basal half of caudal fin. Scales ctenoid, 61 to 71 in longitudinal series. Colour : Brownish with 13 dark cross bands.

Geographic Distribution : Indian coast.

Collection : Jaigad Bandar (Ratnagiri).

97. *Synaptura commersoniana* (Lacepede)

1802. *Pleuronectes commersonianus* Lacepede, *Hist. nat. Poiss.*, 3, pl. 12, fig. 2. (Type-loc : Mauritius).

1877 *Synaptura commersoniana* : Day, *Fishes of India* : 428, pl. 94, fig. 1.

Common Name : Commerson's Sole.

Systematic Note : Body elongate, broad anteriorly and tapering posteriorly. Eyes separated by a scaly interspace. Dorsal and anal fins confluent with caudal fin. Body without spots. No tentacle between the nostrils.

Geographic Distribution : Indo-west Pacific.

Collection : Alibag (Raigad).

98. *Synaptura albomaculata* Kaup

1858. *Synaptura albomaculata* Kaup, *Archiv. Naturgesch.*, 24(1) : 96. (Type-loc : Coromandal coast) ; Day, 1877, *Fishes of India* : 429, pl. 93, fig. 5.

Local Name : Lep.

Systematic Note : Body elongate. Mouth small. A small tentacle between the nostrils. Scales on head and body similar in size. 2–3 rows of spots on ocular side of body.

Geographic Distribution : East coast of India and Burma.

Collection : Jaigad Bandar (Ratnagiri).

Family : CYNOGLOSSIDAE

99. *Cynoglossus arel* (Schn.)

1801. *Pleuronectes arel* Schneider, *Syst. Ichth. Bloch* : 159. (Type-loc : Tranquebar).

1877. *Cynoglossus macrolepidotus* (Bleeker) : Day, *Fishes of India* : 434, pl. 96 fig. 3.

Common Name : Tongue sole. **Local Name** : Lep.

Systematic Note : Tongue shaped. Flat fish with eyes on left side of head. 2 nostrils on ocular side. Snout obtusely pointed. 2 lateral lines on ocular side. 7–9 row of scales between them. Colour : Brownish.

Geographic Distribution : Persian Gulf, Indian Ocean to Philippines.

Collection : Kila Bandar, Bassein (Thane).

100. *Cynoglossus macrostomus* Norman

1877. *Cynoglossus hamiltoni* (nec. Gunther), *Fishes of India* : 436, pl. 95, fig. 3.

1928. *Cynoglossus macrostomus* : Norman, *Rec. Indian Mus.*, 30(2) : 204, fig. 20. (Type-loc : Hooghly estuary, near Calcutta).

Common Name : Malabar tongue sole. **Local Name** : Rhepti, Shivra.

Systematic Note : Cleft of mouth extending far back to posterior margin of fixed eye. 2 lateral lines with 14 to 16 row of scales between them.

Geographic Distribution : Indian coast.

Collection : Sea coast near Mirkarwada, 2.5 km. NW of Ratnagiri (Ratnagiri).

101. *Cynoglossus puncticeps* (Rich.)

1846. *Plagusia puncticeps* Richardson, *Rept. Br. Assoc. Adv. Sci.* : 280. (Type-loc : China).

1877. *Cynoglossus puncticeps* : Day, *Fishes of India* : 437, pl. 97, fig. 1.

Common Name : Speckled tongue Sole. *Local Name* : Lep.

Systematic Note : 2 lateral lines on ocular side with 15 to 19 row of scales between them. Colour : Yellowish brown with very distinct irregular dark brown blotches.

Geographic Distribution : Seas of India.

Collection : Satpati beach, Palghar (Thane).

102. *Cynoglossus bilineatus* (Lacepede)

1802. *Achirus bilineatus* Lacepede, *Hist. nat. Poiss.*, 4 : 659, 663. (Type-loc : China ; East Indies).

1877. *Cynoglossus quadrilineatus* (Bleeker) : Day (partim), *Fishes of India* : 435.

Common Name : Tongue Sole. *Local Name* : Lep.

Systematic Note : 2 lateral line on ocular side with 13 to 16 row of scales between them. 2 lateral lines on blind side too. Colour : Brownish with irregular dark blotch on operculum.

Geographic Distribution : Indian coasts, Pakistan, Malay and Queensland.

Collection : Jaigad (Ratnagiri).

103. *Paraplagusia bilineata* (Bloch)

1784. *Pleuronectes bilineata* Bloch, *Naturges Ausland. Fische*, 3 : 29, pl. 188. (Type-loc: Chinese waters).

1877. *Plagusia marmorata* Bleeker : Day, *Fishes of India* : 431, pl. 95, fig. 1.

Common Name : Double-lined tongue sole. *Local Name* : Lep.

Systematic Note : Body flat and elongate. Eyes on left side of head with a scaly space between them. Pectoral fin absent. 16 to 19 scales between the 2 lateral lines. Rostral hook long and reaches beyond lower eye.

Geographic Distribution : Tropical Indo-west Pacific.

Collection : Panchoo Bandar, Bassein (Thane).

104. *Paraplagusia blochii* (Bleeker)

1851. *Plagusia blochii* Bleeker, *Nat. Tijdschr. Ned-Indie*, 1 : 411. (Type-loc : Malay Archipelago).

1877. *Plagusia billineata* : Day (nec. Bloch), *Fishes of India* : 431.

Common Name : Tongue Sole. *Local Name* : Lep.

Systematic Note : 2 lateral lines with 13 to 15 scales between them. Rostral hook short, not reaching beyond lower eye.

Geographic Distribution : Indian coast, Pakistan, upto Australia.

Collection : Panchoo Bandar, Bassein (Thane).

Order : MASTACEMBELIFORMES

Family : MASTACEMBELIDAE

105. *Mastacembelus guentheri* Day

1865. *Mastacembelus guentheri* Day, *Proc. Zool. Soc.*, London, p. 37. (Type-loc : Malabar).

Common Name : Spiny eel. *Local Name* : Vam.

Systematic Note : Body eel-like, elongated and compressed. Snout, long without any striated bony plates on the under surface. Eyes small and superior. Preopercle with spine at its angle. Dorsal fin with 27–30 spines and 58–74 rays. Scales present.

Geographic Distribution : Fresh and brackish waters of India, Pakistan, West Africa, Syria, Nepal, Sri Lanka, Bangladesh and Burma.

Collection : Dahisar River (Thane).

Order : TETRAODONTIFORMES

Suborder : TETRAODONTOIDEI

Family : TETRAODONTIDAE

106. *Tetraodon oblongus* Bloch

1876. *Tetraodon oblongus* Bloch, *Ausl. Fische.*, 2, p.6, fig. 1 ; Day, *Fishes of India*, 702, pl. CLXXXII, fig. 3.

Common Name : Ocellated Blow fish.

Systematic Note : Body short with a broad back. Abdomen rounded. Head oval.

Snout is blunt. Jaws equal, both with a median suture. Dorsal fin inserted above, slightly ahead of anal with 10-16 rays. Pelvic fin absent. Body covered with fine dermal spines.

Geographic Distribution : Tropical and subtropical seas.

Collection : Bhatya vill. (Ratnagiri).

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

The authors are thankful to the Director, Zoological Survey of India, Calcutta for allowing us to take up the Survey of Western Ghat districts of Maharashtra.

REFERENCES

- Annadale, N. 1919. The fauna of certain streams in Bombay Presidency. *Rec. Indian Mus.*, **16** : 125-162.
- Bal, D.V. 1943. A preliminary account of the fish larvae from Bombay harbour. *Proc. Indian Sci. Congr.*, p. 62.
- Bal, D. V. and Mohamed, 1957. A systematic account of the eels of Bombay. *Jour. Bombay nat. Hist. Soc.*, **54** (3) : 732-740.
- Fowler, W.H. 1928. Further notes and description of Bombay shore fishes. *Jour. Bombay nat. Hist. Soc.*, **33** (1) : 100-109.
- Kulkarni, C. V. 1947. Notes on freshwater fishes of Bombay and Salsette Islands. *Jour. Bombay Nat. Hist. Soc.*, **47** (2) : 319-326.
- Misra, K. N. 1983. Morphometric study of *Coilia dussumieri* (Curv. & val.) off Bombay coast. *Geobios New reports*, **2** (1) : 66-69.
- Mueller, H. C. 1931. Sea fishing on the Bombay coast. *Jour. Bombay nat. Hist. Soc.*, **35** (2) : 410-414.
- Pradhan, M. S. 1964. A preliminary account of the flat fishes (Heterosomata) found along the Bombay coast. *Jour. Bombay nat. Hist. Soc.*, **61** (2) : 456.
- Pillai S. K. & Jayaprakash, A. A. 1978. Occurrence of juveniles of the Indian mackerel *Rastrelliger kanagurta* (Cuvier) in Bombay waters. *Indian J. Fish.*, **25**(1 & 2) : 257-259.
- Singh D. F. & Yazdani, G. M. 1989. A note on the Ichthyofauna of SGNP, Bombay, *Jour. Bombay nat. Hist. Soc.*, **85** (3) : 631-632.

SINGH & YAZDANI



Fig. 1. The Arabian Sea, Vengurla (Sindhudurg Dist.)



Fig. 2. A Konkan Hill Stream