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ZOOLOGICAL SURVEY OF INDIA

Ministry of Environment, Forest & Climate Change

ENTOPROCTA

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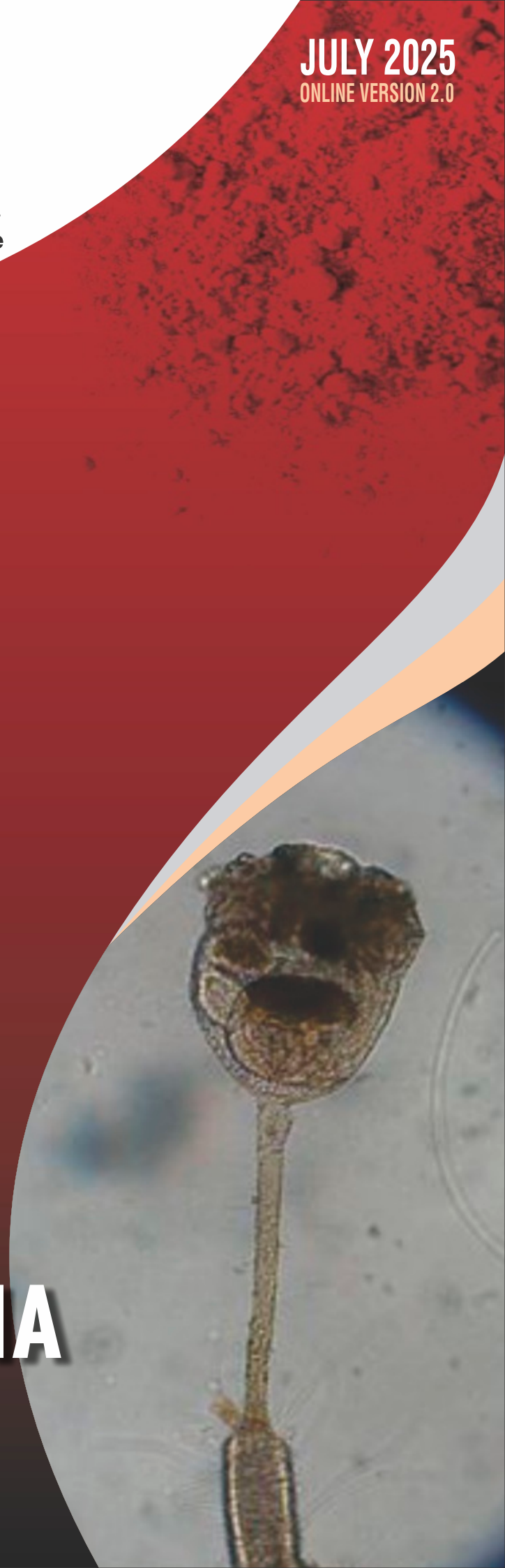
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FAUNA OF INDIA CHECKLIST



ENTOPROCTA

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Introduction: The Phylum Entoprocta represents solitary as well as colonial organisms. These are also known as Kamptozoa. These sessile organisms extensive reported from marine ecosystems while some are reported from freshwater habitats also. The distributional ranges of the marine species are recorded from all the world's oceans except Antarctica up to the depth of 500 m. The colonial species are known to make their attachment on rocks, molluscan shells, algae, as well as underwater solid

structures and even recorded on the softer sediments whereas the solitary individuals are reported as attachment on other faunal communities.

Global diversity: The phylum consists of 205 valid species till date world-wide (WoRMS, 2025).

Diversity in India: Only 8 species of entoprocta are reported from Indian waters.

Diversity in States: Presented in table 1.

Table 1: Entoprocta of India, State-wise distribution

Sl. No.	State / Union Territory	No. of Species
1.	Andhra Pradesh	5
2.	Maharashtra	2
3.	Odisha	2
4.	Tamil Nadu	4
5.	West Bengal	2
	Total number of species	8

Endemism: No endemism has been recorded from India.

Habitat: Entoprocta mostly marine and are found from intertidal to greater depth of the oceans upto the depth of 500 m whereas some are reported from brackish and freshwater habitats. These animals are mostly found as attachments on different structures as well as animal.

Ecological Significance: Solitary entoprocta are reported as commensal on invertebrates.

Human Significance: Entoprocta have no known direct significance on human society.

Threatened species: No species of entoprocta from India is assessed for IUCN threatened categories.

Protected Species as per WPA: Entoprocta are not listed under any schedules of Indian Wildlife (Protection) Act, 1972.

Species under CITES: There is no species enlisted under the CITES Appendices.



Invasive alien species: *Barentsia ramosa* (Robertson, 1900) is reported from India as invasive.

very scanty due to lack of taxonomist in this group. Comprehensive studies are required to explore the faunal group from the coastal and marine ecosystems of India.

Gap areas: Works on Indian Entoprocta are

Systematic list: Species list is cited below (Table 2).

Table 2: Entoprocta of India

Sl. No.	Species
1.	<i>Barentsia discreta</i> (Busk, 1886)
2.	<i>Barentsia gracilis</i> (Sars, 1835)
3.	<i>Barentsia ramosa</i> (Robertson, 1900)
4.	<i>Urnatella gracilis</i> Leidy, 1851
5.	<i>Pedicellina cernua</i> (Pallas, 1774)
6.	<i>Loxosomatoides colonialis</i> Annandale, 1908
7.	<i>Loxosomatoides laevis</i> Annandale, 1915
8.	<i>Loxosomella diopatricola</i> Williams, 2000

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