

Arunachal Pradesh Regional Centre

Zoological Survey of India, Itanagar, Arunachal Pradesh



Government of India
Ministry of Environment and Forests

Arunachal Pradesh known as the land of 'dawn-lit mountains', is a thinly populated and mountainous tract on the easternmost part of India. Being part of the Eastern Himalayas, the State is mostly hilly and mountainous. The mountains towards the east of Siang River are known as the Mishmi Hills, Eastern and South Eastern areas are dominated by the Dapha Bum and Patkai Ranges. Small areas of the flat plains occur along the rivers such as the Siang, Dibang and Lohit. The higher areas, especially the peaks of the Great Himalayas remain snow-capped throughout the year. Owing to great altitudinal variation, from less than 100 m to above 5,000 m, five biomes are found in the State. Arunachal Pradesh is one of the top most birding areas in the world as more than 550 species of birds have been reported from the State.

Arunachal Pradesh Regional Centre was set up on 31st January 1983, at Itanagar under the Seventh Five Year Plan of Government of India as one among the sixteenth Regional Centres of the Zoological Survey of India mainly to explore and augment the knowledge on faunal wealth of Arunachal Pradesh. The Centre's jurisdiction is the whole of Arunachal Pradesh.



Major programmes undertaken

- Studies on small mammals of Arunachal Pradesh
- Studies on the birds communities of Pakke Tiger Reserve
- Studies on the faunistic distribution in Pakke Tiger Reserve
- Studies on the faunistic distribution in Itanagar Wildlife Sanctuary
- Bioacoustics studies on the birds of the Arunachal Pradesh
- Taxonomic studies on the mammals of Arunachal Pradesh
- Studies on the wasps and butterflies of Arunachal Pradesh
- Studies on the waterbirds of Arunachal Pradesh
- Faunistic expedition in Tawang district of Arunachal Pradesh
- Faunistic expedition in Namdapha Tiger Reserve of Arunachal Pradesh

Areas surveyed

Areas surveyed include Namdhapa Tiger Reserve, Pakke Tiger Reserve, D'Ering Memorial Wildlife Sanctuary, Eaglenest and Sessa Orchid Wildlife Sanctuary, Mouling National Park, Mehao Wildlife Sanctuary and also in West Kameng and Tawang districts of Arunachal Pradesh.



Major Scientific Contribution

In 2008 and 2009 two scientific expeditions, one each in Tawang and Namdhapa Tiger Reserve of Arunachal Pradesh, were conducted and 6 new species of Encyrtidae and Pteromalidae (Hymenoptera : Insecta) were described. The scientists of the Centre documented over 90 species of fish from various freshwater bodies of Arunachal Pradesh and also brought out detailed reports on the fauna of Itanagar Wildlife Sanctuary and Pakke Tiger Reserve of the State.

Available taxonomic expertise

Taxonomic expertise on birds, mammals, fishes and other invertebrate groups are available at the centre.



National Zoological Collection (NZC)

The NZCs maintained at the Centre include more than 15,000 specimens of various groups of animals including both vertebrates and invertebrates besides Holotypes and Paratypes of fishes described as new to science by a scientist of the centre as well as scientists of other institutions who have deposited their collections.



Modern Infrastructure and Advanced Research facilities

The Centre is equipped with Compact Insect Storage System for housing insect collection. The Center has a complete set of "Hand Book of the Birds of the World" by Lynx Edicions.

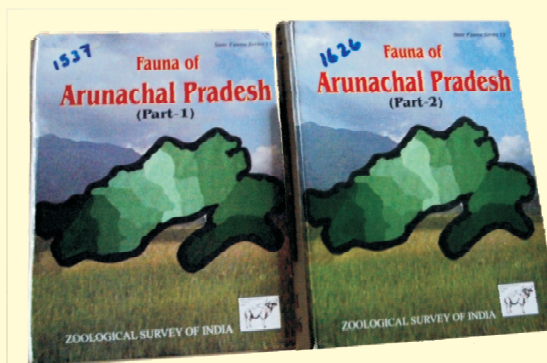
Museum

The Museum has specimens of various birds and insects collected from various areas of Arunachal Pradesh.



Publications

Two volumes on the fauna of Arunachal Pradesh and over 25 scientific papers dealing with various groups of animals have been published.



Library

Library of the Centre has procured 1,876 books. Eleven different journals/periodicals are subscribed.



Other extension activities

Identification and advisory services are offered to the students and to the State forest department. Talks/lectures on biodiversity of the State are often delivered by the scientists of the Centre to school students.

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For more details visit <http://www.zsi.gov.in>