

FAUNA OF INDIA CHECKLIST

ONLINE VERSION 1.0



CNIDARIA: ANTHOZOA: OCTOCORALLIA

C. Raghunathan^{1,3,*} and J.S. Yogesh Kumar^{2, 4}

¹Zoological Survey of India, M-Block, New Alipore, Kolkata-700053, ²Zoological Survey of India, Sunderban Regional Centre, Canning- 743 329, West Bengal, ³raghuksc@rediffmail.com; http://orcid.org/0000-0003-1417-5496, ⁴yogeshkumarzsi16@gmail.com; http://orcid.org/0000-0003-3878-1247 *Correspondence author email id: raghuksc@rediffmail.com

DOI : <https://doi.org/10.26515/Fauna/1/2023/Cnidaria:Anthozoa:Octocorallia>

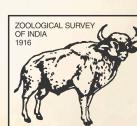
Key words: Soft coral, Sea Pen, Horny Corals, Benthic

Citation: Raghunathan, C. and Yogesh Kumar, J.S. (2024). Fauna of India Checklist: Cnidaria: Anthozoa: Octocorallia. Version 1.0. Zoological Survey India. DOI: <https://doi.org/10.26515/Fauna/1/2023/Cnidaria:Anthozoa:Octocorallia>

Comments on the checklist:

E-mail your comments
and suggestions to improve
the checklist to

zsifaunachecklists@gmail.com;
raghuksc@rediffmail.com



ZOOLOGICAL SURVEY OF INDIA
Ministry of Environment, Forest & Climate Change

CNIDARIA: ANTHOZOA: OCTOCORALLIA

C. Raghunathan^{1,3,*} and J.S. Yogesh Kumar^{2,4}

¹Zoological Survey of India, M-Block, New Alipore, Kolkata-700053, ²Zoological Survey of India, Sunderban Regional Centre, Canning- 743 329, West Bengal ³raghuksc@rediffmail.com; <http://orcid.org/0000-0003-1417-5496> ⁴yogeshkumarzs16@gmail.com; <http://orcid.org/0000-0003-3878-1247> *Correspondence author email id: raghuksc@rediffmail.com

Introduction: Octocorals also known as alcyonarians belonging to class Octocorallia and subphylum Anthozoa of Cnidarian group of animals. They are exclusively marine benthic, sessile organisms formed of 8-fold symmetry of colonial polyps. These animals appear as stony corals in morphology and polyp size but are distinguished by absence of hard skeleton and symmetry of polyp. The species *Heliopora coerulea* is the only known octocoral to produce a massive lobed crystalline calcareous skeleton in colonial corals. Their tissue made up of calcium carbonate skeletal elements called as sclerites which provide support and growth of the colony. These organisms have an internal skeleton secreted by mesoglea and polyps with eight tentacles and eight mesentaries. As with all Cnidarians these organisms have a complex life cycle including a motile phase when they are considered plankton and later characteristic sessile phase.

Global diversity: The order encompasses 3599 described species in three orders viz., Malacalcyonacea, Scleralcyonacea, and Octocorallia inserta sedis.

Diversity in India: In India, 456 species belonging to 87 genera and 38 families in two orders are recorded.

Diversity in States: Presented in table 1.

Table 1: Octocorals of India, State-wise distribution

Sl. No.	State/UT	No. of species
	INDIA TOTAL	456
1	Andhra Pradesh	21
2	Gujarat	19
3	Goa	1
4	Karnataka	3
5	Kerala	13
6	Maharashtra	9
7	Odisha	34
8	Tamil Nadu	202
9	West Bengal	7
10	Andaman & Nicobar	273
11	Lakshadweep	45
12	Puducherry	24

Endemism: No endemism has been reported.

Habitat: They are found in intertidal region to shallow subtidal region and few are at abyssal depths. They distributed in variety environments marine, brackish waters, hard substratum like coral reefs, dead corals, rocks, jetty pillars and ship hulls, and soft substratum such as mud and sandy regions.

Ecological Significance: Coral reefs are providing home to all marine organisms, so the competitions among for living space are could be possible. Octocorals are one of the major benthic communities like scleractinian corals in reef ecosystem. They produces allelopathic substances to defending mechanism from other competitors. Many shallow water soft corals symbiosis with the dinoflagellate microalgae called zooxanthellae and zooxanthellae algae utilize the sunlight, carbon dioxide, water from environments and nutrients from intake water to produce sugars and other cellular matter. Most of coral reef animals such as reef fishes, crabs, shrimps, sea cucumbers, brittle stars, sea anemones, sponges, molluscs, copepods and seaweeds are associates with octocorals.

Human Significance: Octocorals have the potent bioactive compounds which possess antimicrobial, anti-viral, anthelmintic, anti-coagulant, anti-spasmodic, antidepressant, antihypertensive, bronchodilators and anti-leukemic substances useful for pharmaceutical industries. As an ornamental organism in marine aquariums at public, home and private places. These animals are considered directly or indirectly measure the health of coral reef ecosystem.

Threatened species: Species from India are not assessed for IUCN threatened categories.

Protected Species as per WPA: A total of 291 species are protected under Schedule-I of Indian Wildlife (Protection) Amendment Act, 2022.

Species under CITES: Two species such as *Tubipora musica* Linnaeus, 1758 and *Heliofungia coerulea* (Pallas, 1766) are listed under Appendix II of CITES.

Invasive alien species: One species of Octocoral, *Carijoa riisei* (Duchassaing & Michelotti, 1860) is reported to be invasive in Indian waters.

Gap areas: Octocorals are one of major reef cnidarians along with scleractinian corals and these are one among the most challenging groups in identification. Comparatively, the taxonomical and ecological studies on octocorals are very scarce in Indian waters. Very few taxonomists are presently engaged to collect and describing of Octocoral taxonomy in India. More taxonomists and ecologists are required to work on octocorals to prepare octocoral database from Indian waters.

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

Table 2: Octocorals of India

Sl. No.	Species
1.	<i>Klyxum flaccidum</i> (Tixier Durivault, 1966)
2.	<i>Cladiella australis</i> (Macfayen, 1936)
3.	<i>Cladiella krempfi</i> (Hickson, 1919)
4.	<i>Cladiella laciniosa</i> (Tixier Durivault, 1944)
5.	<i>Cladiella pachyclados</i> Klunzinger, 1817
6.	<i>Aldersladum nana</i> (Hickson, 1931)
7.	<i>Lobophytum altum</i> Tixier Durivault, 1956
8.	<i>Lobophytum batarum</i> Moser, 1919
9.	<i>Lobophytum catalai</i> Tixier Durivault, 1957
10.	<i>Lobophytum compactum</i> Tixier-Durivault, 1958
11.	<i>Lobophytum crassum</i> Von Marenzeller, 1886
12.	<i>Lobophytum crebripicatum</i> Von Marenzeller, 1886
13.	<i>Lobophytum durum</i> Tixier Durivault, 1956
14.	<i>Lobophytum hirsutum</i> Tixier Durivault, 1956
15.	<i>Lobophytum irregulare</i> Tixier-Durivault, 1970
16.	<i>Lobophytum latilobatum</i> Verseveldt, 1957
17.	<i>Lobophytum pauciflorum</i> Ehrenberg, 1834
18.	<i>Lobophytum planum</i> Tixier Durivault, 1970
19.	<i>Lobophytum pusillum</i> Tixier Durivault, 1970
20.	<i>Lobophytum rotundum</i> Tixier-Durivault, 1957
21.	<i>Lobophytum sarcophyoides</i> Moser, 1919
22.	<i>Lobophytum schoedei</i> Moser, 1919
23.	<i>Lobophytum solidum</i> Tixier-Durivault, 1970
24.	<i>Lobophytum strictum</i> Tixier Durivault, 1957
25.	<i>Lobophytum tecticum</i> Alderslade & Shirwaiker, 1991
26.	<i>Lobophytum varium</i> Tixier-Durivault, 1970
27.	<i>Lobophytum variatum</i> Tixier Durivault, 1957
28.	<i>Lobophytum venustum</i> Tixier Durivault, 1957
29.	<i>Sarcophyton andamanensis</i> Jaya Sree, Bhatt & Parulekar, 1994
30.	<i>Sarcophyton birkelandi</i> Verseveldt, 1978
31.	<i>Sarcophyton boettgeri</i> Schenk, 1896
32.	<i>Sarcophyton buitendjiki</i> Verseveldt, 1978
33.	<i>Sarcophyton cherbonnierii</i> Tixier Durivault, 1958
34.	<i>Sarcophyton cornispiculatum</i> Verseveldt, 1971
35.	<i>Sarcophyton crassocaule</i> Moser, 1919
36.	<i>Sarcophyton crassum</i> Tixier Durivault, 1946
37.	<i>Sarcophyton digitatum</i> Moser, 1919
38.	<i>Sarcophyton ehrenbergi</i> (von Marenzeller, 1886)
39.	<i>Sarcophyton elegans</i> Moser, 1919
40.	<i>Sarcophyton glaucum</i> Quoy and Gaimard, 1833

Sl. No.	Species
41.	<i>Sarcophyton infundibuliforme</i> Tixier Durivault, 1958
42.	<i>Sarcophyton latum</i> (Dana, 1846)
43.	<i>Sarcophyton roseum</i> Pratt, 1903
44.	<i>Sarcophyton sereneri</i> Tixier- Durivault, 1958
45.	<i>Sarcophyon stellatum</i> Kukenthal, 1910
46.	<i>Sarcophyton spinispiculatum</i> Alderslade and Shirwaiker, 1991
47.	<i>Sarcophyton subviride</i> Tixier-Durivault, 1958
48.	<i>Sarcophyton tortuosum</i> TixierDurivault,
49.	<i>Sarcophyton trocheliophorum</i> Von Marenzeller, 1886
50.	<i>Sclerophytum abhishiktae</i> (van Ofwegen & Vennam, 1991)
51.	<i>Sclerophytum abruptum</i> (Tixier-Durivault, 1970)
52.	<i>Sclerophytum andamanense</i> Thomson & Simpson, 1909
53.	<i>Sclerophytum ceramense</i> (Verseveldt, 1977)
54.	<i>Sclerophytum capitale</i> Pratt, 1903
55.	<i>Sclerophytum compactum</i> (Tixier-Durivault, 1970)
56.	<i>Sclerophytum confertum</i> (Dana, 1846)
57.	<i>Sclerophytum cristatum</i> (Tixier-Durivault, 1970)
58.	<i>Sclerophytum densum</i> (Whitelegge, 1897)
59.	<i>Sclerophytum dissectum</i> (Tixier-Durivault, 1945)
60.	<i>Sclerophytum depressum</i> (Tixier-Durivault, 1970)
61.	<i>Sclerophytum elongatum</i> (Tixier-Durivault, 1970)
62.	<i>Sclerophytum erectum</i> (Tixier-Durivault, 1945)
63.	<i>Sclerophytum exile</i> (Tixier-Durivault, 1970)
64.	<i>Sclerophytum facile</i> (Tixier-Durivault, 1970)
65.	<i>Sclerophytum flexibile</i> (Quoy & Gaimard, 1833)
66.	<i>Sclerophytum gaveshaniae</i> (Alderslade & Shirwaiker, 1991)
67.	<i>Sclerophytum gaweli</i> (Verseveldt, 1978)
68.	<i>Sclerophytum gibberosum</i> (Tixier-Durivault, 1970)
69.	<i>Sclerophytum grandilobatum</i> (Verseveldt, 1980)
70.	<i>Sclerophytum granosum</i> (Tixier-Durivault, 1970)
71.	<i>Sclerophytum gravis</i> (Tixier-Durivault, 1970)
72.	<i>Sclerophytum hirtum</i> Pratt, 1903
73.	<i>Sclerophytum inelegans</i> (Tixier-Durivault, 1970)
74.	<i>Sclerophytum jasminae</i> (Alderslade & Shirwaiker, 1991)
75.	<i>Sclerophytum kavarattense</i> (Alderslade & Shirwaiker, 1991)
76.	<i>Sclerophytum leptoclados</i> (Ehrenberg, 1834)
77.	<i>Sclerophytum lochmodes</i> (Kolonko, 1926)
78.	<i>Sclerophytum manaarensense</i> (Verseveldt, 1980)
79.	<i>Sclerophytum maximum</i> (Verseveldt, 1971)
80.	<i>Sclerophytum microclavatum</i> (Tixier-Durivault, 1970)
81.	<i>Sclerophytum molestum</i> (Tixier-Durivault, 1970)
82.	<i>Sclerophytum murale</i> (May, 1899)

Sl. No.	Species
83.	<i>Sclerophytum numerosum</i> (Tixier-Durivault, 1970)
84.	<i>Sclerophytum ornatum</i> (Tixier-Durivault, 1970)
85.	<i>Sclerophytum ovispiculatum</i> (Tixier-Durivault, 1970)
86.	<i>Sclerophytum parulekari</i> (Alderslade & Shirwaiker, 1991)
87.	<i>Sclerophytum peculiare</i> (Tixier-Durivault, 1970)
88.	<i>Sclerophytum pocilloporaeforme</i> (Aldersladum, 1983)
89.	<i>Sclerophytum polydactylum</i> (Ehrenberg, 1834)
90.	<i>Sclerophytum querciforme</i> Pratt, 1903
91.	<i>Sclerophytum rigidum</i> (Dana, 1846)
92.	<i>Sclerophytum sandense</i> (Verseveldt, 1977)
93.	<i>Sclerophytum triangulum</i> (Tixier-Durivault, 1970)
94.	<i>Sclerophytum variabile</i> (Tixier-Durivault, 1945)
95.	<i>Sclerophytum vrijmoethi</i> (Verseveldt, 1971)
96.	<i>Sclerophytum whiteleggei</i> (Lüttschwager, 1914)
97.	<i>Sinularia brassica</i> May, 1898
98.	<i>Aldersladum nana</i> (Hickson, 1931)
99.	<i>Capnella parva</i> Light, 1913
100.	<i>Studeriotes mirabilis</i> (Thomson, 1908)
101.	<i>Dendronephthya albogilva</i> Henderson, 1909
102.	<i>Dendronephthya andamanensis</i> Henderson, 1909
103.	<i>Dendronephthya arbuscula</i> Henderson, 1909
104.	<i>Dendronephthya aurora</i> Ridley, 1887
105.	<i>Dendronephthya biformata</i> (Harrison, 1908)
106.	<i>Dendronephthya booleyi</i> Henderson, 1909
107.	<i>Dendronephthya brachycaulos</i> Henderson, 1909
108.	<i>Dendronephthya brevirama</i> Burchardt, 1898
109.	<i>Dendronephthya cervicornus</i> Wright and Studer, 1889
110.	<i>Dendronephthya cocomensis</i> Henderson, 1909
111.	<i>Dendronephthya conica</i> Henderson, 1909
112.	<i>Dendronephthya costatorubra</i> Henderson, 1909
113.	<i>Dendronephthya delicatissima</i> Henderson, 1909
114.	<i>Dendronephthya dendrophyta</i> Henderson, 1909
115.	<i>Dendronephthya dichotoma</i> Henderson, 1909
116.	<i>Dendronephthya divaricata</i> Gray, 1862
117.	<i>Dendronephthya elegans</i> Henderson, 1909
118.	<i>Dendronephthya elongata</i> Henderson, 1909
119.	<i>Dendronephthya foliata</i> Henderson, 1909
120.	<i>Dendronephthya ganjamensis</i> Henderson, 1909
121.	<i>Dendronephthya gilva</i> Henderson, 1909
122.	<i>Dendronephthya harrisoni</i> Henderson, 1909
123.	<i>Dendronephthya hemprichi</i> Klunzinger, 1877
124.	<i>Dendronephthya irregularis</i> Henderson, 1909

Sl. No.	Species
125.	<i>Dendronephthya koellikeri</i> Kukenthal, 1905
126.	<i>Dendronephthya lanxifera</i> Holm, 1895
127.	<i>Dendronephthya longispina</i> Henderson, 1909
128.	<i>Dendronephthya masoni</i> Henderson, 1909
129.	<i>Dendronephthya microscopiculata</i> (Pütter, 1900)
130.	<i>Dendronephthya micracanthus</i> Henderson, 1909
131.	<i>Dendronephthya mirabilis</i> (Tixier Durivault & Prevorsek, 1962)
132.	<i>Dendronephthya multispinosa</i> Henderson, 1909
133.	<i>Dendronephthya nicobarensis</i> Henderson, 1909
134.	<i>Dendraonephthya obtusa</i> Henderson, 1909
135.	<i>Dendronephthya ochracea</i> Henderson, 1909
136.	<i>Dendronephthya orientalis</i> Henderson, 1909
137.	<i>Dendronephthya ovata</i> Henderson, 1909
138.	<i>Dendronephthya pallida</i> Henderson, 1909
139.	<i>Dendronephthya pellucida</i> Henderson, 1909
140.	<i>Dendronephthya pentagona</i> Henderson, 1909
141.	<i>Dendronephthya purpurea</i> Henderson, 1909
142.	<i>Dendronephthya quadrata</i> Henderson, 1909
143.	<i>Dendronephthya rubescens</i> Thomson & Dean, 1931
144.	<i>Dendronephthya rubeola</i> Henderson, 1909
145.	<i>Dendronephthya thomsoni</i> (Harrison, 1908)
146.	<i>Dendronephthya thuja</i> Henderson, 1909
147.	<i>Dendronephthya uliginosa</i> Thomson & Henderson, 1906
148.	<i>Dendronephthya variata</i> Henderson, 1909
149.	<i>Dendronephthya varicolor</i> Henderson, 1909
150.	<i>Chromonephthea glomerata</i> (Thompson & Henderson, 1909)
151.	<i>Litophyton tenuispina</i> Thompson & Henderson, 1909
152.	<i>Umbellulifera striata</i> (Thomson & Henderson, 1905)
153.	<i>Siphonogorgia asperula</i> Thompson & Henderson, 1909
154.	<i>Siphonogorgia media</i> Thompson & Henderson, 1909
155.	<i>Siphonogorgia mirabilis</i> Klunzinger, 1877
156.	<i>Siphonogorgia palmata</i> Thompson & Henderson, 1909
157.	<i>Siphonogorgia rotunda</i> Harrison, 1908
158.	<i>Siphonogorgia variabilis</i> Hickson, 1903
159.	<i>Nephthyigorgia annexens</i> (Thomson & Simpson, 1909)
160.	<i>Nidalia alciformis</i> (Simpson, 1907)
161.	<i>Nidalia celosioides</i> (Simpson, 1907)
162.	<i>Nidalia expansa</i> (Simpson, 1907)
163.	<i>Scleronephthya armata</i> (Thomson & Simpson, 1909)
164.	<i>Scleronephthya indica</i> (Thomson & Simpson, 1909)
165.	<i>Xenia ternatana</i> Schenk, 1896
166.	<i>Xenia umbellata</i> Lamarck, 1816

Sl. No.	Species
167.	<i>Tubipora musica</i> Linnaeus, 1758
168.	<i>Carijoa riisei</i> (Duchassaing & Michelotti, 1860)
169.	<i>Clavularia decipiens</i> (Thomson & Henderson, 1906)
170.	<i>Clavularia granulosum</i> (Thomson & Henderson, 1906)
171.	<i>Clavularia incrassans</i> (Thomson & Henderson, 1906)
172.	<i>Clavularia indicum</i> (Thomson & Henderson, 1906)
173.	<i>Clavularia margaritiferae</i> Thomson & Henderson, 1905
174.	<i>Clavularia pulchrum</i> (Thomson & Henderson, 1906)
175.	<i>Clavularia viridis</i> (Quoy and Gaimard, 1833)
176.	<i>Telesto arborea</i> Wright & Studer, 1889
177.	<i>Telesto rubra</i> Hickson 1903
178.	<i>Solenocaulon sterroclonium</i> Germanos, 1895
179.	<i>Solenocaulon tortuosum</i> Gray, 1862
180.	<i>Erythropodium pambanensis</i> Fernando, 2011
181.	<i>Subergorgia</i> var. <i>Ceylonensis</i> kolliker, 1869
182.	<i>Subergorgia rubra</i> Thomson, 1905
183.	<i>Subergorgia suberosa</i> (Pallas, 1766)
184.	<i>Annella mollis</i> (Nutting, 1910)
185.	<i>Annella reticulata</i> (Ellis & Solander, 1786)
186.	<i>Melithaea andamanensis</i> (van Ofwegen, 1987)
187.	<i>Melithaea biserialis</i> (Kukenthal, 1908)
188.	<i>Melithaea braueri</i> (Kukenthal, 1919)
189.	<i>Melithaea caledonica</i> Grasshoff, 1999
190.	<i>Melithaea cinquemiglia</i> (Grasshoff, 1999)
191.	<i>Melithaea hicksoni</i> (Nutting 1911)
192.	<i>Melithaea maldivensis</i> (van Ofwegen, 1987)
193.	<i>Melithaea ochracea</i> (Linnaeus, 1785)
194.	<i>Melithaea ornata</i> (Thomson and Simpson, 1909)
195.	<i>Melithaea ouvea</i> (Grasshoff, 1999)
196.	<i>Melithaea philippinensis</i> (Wright and Studer, 1889)
197.	<i>Melithaea rubeola</i> (Wright & Studer, 1889)
198.	<i>Melithaea squamata</i> (Nutting, 1911)
199.	<i>Melithaea variabilis</i> (Hickson, 1905)
200.	<i>Briareum violaceum</i> (Quoy & Gaimard, 1833)
201.	<i>Parisis fruticosa</i> Verrill, 1864
202.	<i>Keroeides gracilis</i> Whitelegge, 1897
203.	<i>Keroeides koreni</i> Wright & Studer, 1889
204.	<i>Echinogorgia complexa</i> Nutting, 1910
205.	<i>Echinogorgia disimilis</i> Fernando, 2011
206.	<i>Echinogorgia flabellum</i> (Esper, 1791)
207.	<i>Echinogorgia intermedia</i> Studer, 1895
208.	<i>Echinogorgia longisspinosa</i> Fernando, 2011

Sl. No.	Species
209.	<i>Echinogorgia macrospiculata</i> Thomson and Simpson, 1909
210.	<i>Echinogorgia multispinosa</i> Thomson and Henderson, 1905
211.	<i>Echinogorgia ramulosa</i> (Gray, 1870)
212.	<i>Echinogorgia reticulata</i> (Esper, 1791)
213.	<i>Echinogorgia seshaiyaii</i> Fernando, 2011
214.	<i>Echinogorgia toombo</i> Grasshoff, 1999
215.	<i>Echinomuricea andamanensis</i> Thomson and Simpson, 1909
216.	<i>Echinomuricea cuddalorensis</i> Fernando, 2011
217.	<i>Echinomuricea indomalaccensis</i> Ridley, 1884
218.	<i>Echinomuricea indica</i> Thomson & Simpson, 1909
219.	<i>Echinomuricea ochracea</i> Thomson & Simpson, 1909
220.	<i>Echinomuricea splendens</i> Thomson & Simpson, 1909
221.	<i>Echinomuricea uliginosa</i> Thomson & Simpson, 1909
222.	<i>Elasmogorgia filiformis</i> Wright & Studer, 1889
223.	<i>Elasmogorgia flexilis</i> Hickson, 1905
224.	<i>Euplexaura albida</i> Kukenthal, 1908
225.	<i>Euplexaura amerea</i> Grasshoff, 1999
226.	<i>Euplexaura koothankuliensis</i> Fernando, 2011
227.	<i>Euplexaura rhipidalis</i> Studer, 1895
228.	<i>Euplexaura thomsoni</i> Kükenthal, 1924
229.	<i>Discogorgia campanulifera</i> (Nutting, 1910)
230.	<i>Trimuricea caledonica</i> Grasshoff, 1999
231.	<i>Trimuricea cuddalorensis</i> Fernando, 2011
232.	<i>Trimuricea indica</i> Fernando, 2011
233.	<i>Trimuricea longispinosa</i> Fernando, 2011
234.	<i>Trimuricea reticulata</i> (Thomson & Simpson, 1909)
235.	<i>Trimuricea robusta</i> Fernando, 2011
236.	<i>Paracis ceylonensis</i> (Thomson and Henderson, 1905)
237.	<i>Paracis indica</i> (Thomson and Henderson, 1905)
238.	<i>Paracis pustulata</i> (Wright and Studer, 1889)
239.	<i>Paracis rigida</i> (Thomson and Simpson, 1909)
240.	<i>Paracis spinosa</i> (Thomson and Henderson, 1906)
241.	<i>Paracis squamata</i> (Nutting, 1910)
242.	<i>Paracis ulex</i> Thomson and Simpson, 1909
243.	<i>Villogorgia ceylonensis</i> (Thomson and Henderson, 1905)
244.	<i>Villogorgia rubra</i> Hiles, 1899
245.	<i>Muriceides tenuis</i> (Nutting, 1908)
246.	<i>Menacella gracilis</i> Thomson and Simpson, 1909
247.	<i>Menella flora</i> (Nutting, 1910)
248.	<i>Menella idinthakaraiensis</i> Fernando, 2011
249.	<i>Menella indica</i> Gray, 1870
250.	<i>Menella kanisa</i> Grasshoff, 2000

Sl. No.	Species
251.	<i>Menella kouare</i> Grasshoff, 1999
252.	<i>Menella praelonga</i> (Ridley, 1884)
253.	<i>Menella praelonga</i> var. <i>cinerea</i> (Ridley, 1884)
254.	<i>Menella woodin</i> Grasshoff, 1999
255.	<i>Paraplexaura mannarensis</i> Fernando, 2011
256.	<i>Paraplexaura maxima</i> Fernando, 2011
257.	<i>Paraplexaura multiplanar</i> Fernando, 2011
258.	<i>Paraplexaura platysclera</i> Fernando, 2011
259.	<i>Astrogorgia anastomosan</i> Fernando, 2011
260.	<i>Astrogorgia bicolor</i> Fernando, 2011
261.	<i>Astrogorgia cuddalorensis</i> Fernando, 2011
262.	<i>Astrogorgia krusadiensis</i> Fernando, 2011
263.	<i>Astrogorgia macrosclera</i> Fernando, 2011
264.	<i>Astrogorgia nagapatinamensis</i> Fernando, 2011
265.	<i>Astrogorgia seshaiyaii</i> Fernando, 2011
266.	<i>Astrogorgia sinensis</i> (Verrill, 1865)
267.	<i>Astrogorgia uvarensis</i> Fernando, 2011
268.	<i>Acanthomuricea arborea</i> Grasshoff, 2000
269.	<i>Acanthomuricea nagapatinamensis</i> Fernando, 2011
270.	<i>Acanthomuricea tuticorinensis</i> Fernando, 2011
271.	<i>Bebryce indica</i> Thomson, 1905
272.	<i>Bebryce sirene</i> Grasshoff, 1999
273.	<i>Bebryce studeri</i> Whitelegge, 1897
274.	<i>Bebryce thomsoni</i> Nutting, 1910
275.	<i>Bebryce mollis</i> Philippi, 1842
276.	<i>Psammogorgia flabellum</i> (Pallas, 1766)
277.	<i>Psammogorgia ridleyi</i> Thomson and Simpson, 1909
278.	<i>Pseudothesea flava</i> (Nutting, 1910)
279.	<i>Acanthogorgia breviflora</i> Whitelegge, 1897
280.	<i>Acanthogorgia ceylonensis</i> Thomson and Henderson, 1905
281.	<i>Acanthogorgia cuddalorensis</i> Fernando, 2011
282.	<i>Acanthogorgia cylindricus</i> Fernando, 2011
283.	<i>Acanthogorgia delicata</i> Fernando, 2011
284.	<i>Acanthogorgia macrospiculata</i> Fernando, 2011
285.	<i>Acanthogorgia muricata</i> Verrill, 1883
286.	<i>Acanthogorgia armata</i> Verrill, 1878
287.	<i>Acanthogorgia spinosa</i> Hiles, 1899
288.	<i>Acanthogorgia turgida</i> Nutting, 1911
289.	<i>Anthogorgia glomerata</i> Thomson & Simpson, 1909
290.	<i>Anthogorgia ochracea</i> Grasshoff, 1999
291.	<i>Anthogorgia racemosa</i> Thomson and Simpson, 1909
292.	<i>Anthogorgia ramamoorthii</i> Fernando, 2011

Sl. No.	Species
293.	<i>Anthogorgia verrilli</i> Thomson and Henderson, 1906
294.	<i>Calicogorgia tenuis</i> Thomson and Simpson, 1909
295.	<i>Muricella bengalensis</i> Thomson and Henderson, 1906
296.	<i>Muricella complanata</i> Wright & Studer, 1889
297.	<i>Muricella dubia</i> Nutting, 1910
298.	<i>Muricella gracilis</i> Wright and Studer, 1889
299.	<i>Muricella nitida</i> (Verrill, 1868)
300.	<i>Muricella paraplectana</i> Grasshoff, 1999 (Plate 11 D)
301.	<i>Muricella ramosa</i> Thompson & Henderson, 1905
302.	<i>Muricella robusta</i> Thomson and Simpson, 1909
303.	<i>Muricella rubra</i> Thomson, 1905
304.	<i>Muricella umbraticoides</i> (Studer, 1878)
305.	<i>Paramuricea indica</i> Thomson and Henderson, 1906
306.	<i>Placogorgia indica</i> Thomson and Henderson, 1906
307.	<i>Placogorgia orientalis</i> Thomson and Henderson, 1906
308.	<i>Astromuricea stellifera</i> (Thomson & Crane, 1909)
309.	<i>Leptogorgia australiensis</i> (Milne Edwards & Haime, 1857)
310.	<i>Leptogorgia lutkeni</i> (Wright and Studer, 1889)
311.	<i>Leptogorgia verrilli</i> Wright and Studer, 1933
312.	<i>Pseudopterogorgia anastomosan</i> Fernando, 2011
313.	<i>Pseudopterogorgia australiensis</i> (Rideley, 1884)
314.	<i>Pseudopterogorgia balasubramanii</i> Fernando, 2011
315.	<i>Pseudopterogorgia filiformis</i> Fernando, 2011
316.	<i>Pseudopterogorgia flexibilis</i> Fernando, 2011
317.	<i>Pseudopterogorgia formosa</i> (Nutting, 1910)
318.	<i>Pseudopterogorgia fredericki</i> Williams and Vennam, 2001
319.	<i>Pseudopterogorgia kodiakaraiensis</i> Fernando, 2011
320.	<i>Pseudopterogorgia kotapatnamensis</i> Fernando, 2011
321.	<i>Pseudopterogorgia lutkeni</i> (Wright & Studer, 1889)
322.	<i>Pseudopterogorgia mandabamensis</i> (Fernando, 2011)
323.	<i>Pseudopterogorgia mangalorensis</i> (Fernando, 2011)
324.	<i>Pseudopterogorgia oliviae</i> (Fernando, 2011)
325.	<i>Pseudopterogorgia oppositipinna</i> (Ridley, 1888)
326.	<i>Pseudopterogorgia pandiani</i> Fernando, 2011
327.	<i>Pseudopterogorgia philippi</i> Fernando, 2011
328.	<i>Pseudopterogorgia rubra</i> Fernando, 2011
329.	<i>Pseudopterogorgia rubrotincta</i> (Thomson and Henderson, 1905)
330.	<i>Pseudopterogorgia thomassini</i> (Tixier-Durivault, 1972)
331.	<i>Pseudopterogorgia undulata</i> Fernando, 2011
332.	<i>Pseudopterogorgia vedalaiensis</i> Fernando, 2011
333.	<i>Pseudopterogorgia williamsi</i> Fernando, 2011
334.	<i>Rumphella aggregata</i> (Nutting, 1910)

Sl. No.	Species
335.	<i>Rumphella antipathies</i> (Linnaeus, 1758)
336.	<i>Rumphella torta</i> (Klunzinger, 1877)
337.	<i>Hicksonella princeps</i> Nutting, 1910
338.	<i>Eunicella filiformis</i> Studer, 1878
339.	<i>Eunicella verrucosa</i> (Pallas, 1766)
340.	<i>Guaiagorgia anas</i> Grasshoff & Alderslade, 1997
341.	<i>Isis hippuris</i> Linnaeus, 1758
342.	<i>Acanella robusta</i> Thomson & Henderson, 1906
343.	<i>Keratoisis gracilis</i> (Thomson & Henderson, 1906)
344.	<i>Ellisella andamanensis</i> (Simpson, 1910)
345.	<i>Ellisella azilia</i> Grasshoff, 1999
346.	<i>Ellisella bayeri</i> Fernando, 2011
347.	<i>Ellisella cercidia</i> Grasshoff, 1999
348.	<i>Ellisella ceylonensis</i> (Simpson, 1910)
349.	<i>Ellisella eustala</i> (Grasshoff, 1999)
350.	<i>Ellisella filiformis</i> (Toepplitz, 1889)
351.	<i>Ellisella grasshoffi</i> Fernando, 2011
352.	<i>Ellisella maculata</i> (Studer, 1878)
353.	<i>Ellisella marisrubri</i> (Stiasny, 1938)
354.	<i>Ellisella nuctenea</i> (Grasshoff, 1999)
355.	<i>Ellisella rubra</i> (Wright & Studer, 1889)
356.	<i>Dichotella gemmacea</i> (Milne Edwards & Haime, 1857)
357.	<i>Junceella delicata</i> Grasshoff, 1999
358.	<i>Junceella eunicelloides</i> Grasshoff, 1999
359.	<i>Junceella juncea</i> (Pallas, 1766)
360.	<i>Junceella minacea</i> Thomson & Henderson, 1906
361.	<i>Junceella trilineata</i> Thomson & Henderson, 1905
362.	<i>Heliania racemosa</i> (Wright & Studer, 1889)
363.	<i>Heliania spinescens</i> (Gray, 1859)
364.	<i>Nicella carinata</i> Nutting, 1910
365.	<i>Nicella cuddalorensis</i> Fernando, 2011
366.	<i>Nicella dichotoma</i> (Gray, 1860)
367.	<i>Nicella elegans</i> Fernando, 2011
368.	<i>Nicella flabellata</i> (Whitelegge, 1897)
369.	<i>Nicella gemmacea</i> (Velenciennes, 1855)
370.	<i>Nicella laevis</i> (Nutting, 1910)
371.	<i>Nicella laxa</i> Whitelegge, 1897
372.	<i>Nicella magna</i> Grasshoff, 1999
373.	<i>Nicella rarus</i> Fernando, 2011
374.	<i>Nicella rubra</i> (Nutting, 1910)
375.	<i>Nicella pustulosa</i> (Thomson & Simpson, 1909)
376.	<i>Viminella crassa</i> (Grasshoff, 1999) (Plate 14 F)

Sl. No.	Species
377.	<i>Viminella dissimilis</i> Fernando, 2011
378.	<i>Viminella juncelloides</i> (Stiasny, 1938)
379.	<i>Verrucella balasubramaniani</i> Fernando, 2011
380.	<i>Verrucella cerasina</i> (Grashoff, 1999)
381.	<i>Verrucella corona</i> (Grashoff, 1999)
382.	<i>Verrucella diadema</i> (Grashoff, 1999)
383.	<i>Verrucella dichromata</i> Fernando, 2011
384.	<i>Verrucella flexuosa</i> (Lamrack, 1815)
385.	<i>Verrucella gubalensis</i> Grasshoff, 2000
386.	<i>Verrucella ixobolooides</i> Fernando, 2011
387.	<i>Verrucella klunzingeri</i> Grasshoff, 2000
388.	<i>Verrucella pambnensis</i> Fernando, 2011
389.	<i>Verrucella pinnata</i> Fernando, 2011
390.	<i>Verrucella pondicheriensis</i> Fernando, 2011
391.	<i>Verrucella umbracula</i> (Ellis & Solander, 1786)
392.	<i>Verrucella umbella</i> (Esper, 1798)
393.	<i>Pterostenella plumatilis</i> (Milne Edwards & Haime, 1857)
394.	<i>Callogorgia versluysi</i> (Thomson, 1905)
395.	<i>Callogorgia indica</i> Versluys, 1906
396.	<i>Candidella horrida</i> (Thomson and Henderson, 1960)
397.	<i>Chrysogorgia dichotoma</i> Thomson and Henderson, 1906
398.	<i>Chrysogorgia flexilis</i> (Wright and Studer, 1889)
399.	<i>Chrysogorgia flexilis</i> (Wright and Studer, 1889)
400.	<i>Virgularia densa</i> Tixier-Durivault, 1966
401.	<i>Virgularia elegans</i> Gray, 1870
402.	<i>Virgularia gustaviana</i> (Herklotz, 1863) (Plate 15 F)
403.	<i>Virgularia juncea</i> Pallas, 1766
404.	<i>Virgularia mirabilis</i> (Muller, 1776) (Plate 15 G)
405.	<i>Virgularia ornata</i> Thomson and Simpson, 1909
406.	<i>Virgularia fusca</i> Thomson and Simpson, 1909
407.	<i>Virgularia rumphii</i> Kolliker, 1870
408.	<i>Scythalium martensi</i> var. <i>magniflora</i> Thomson and Simpson, 1909
409.	<i>Pteroeides nigrum</i> Kolliker, 1880
410.	<i>Pteroeides lacazii</i> var. <i>spinosum</i> Kolliker, 1880
411.	<i>Pteroeides ilicifolium</i> Thompson and Simpson, 1909
412.	<i>Pteroeides intermedium</i> Thomson and Simpson, 1909
413.	<i>Pteroeides robustum</i> Thomson and Simpson, 1909
414.	<i>Pteroeides mac-andrewi</i> Kolliker, 1880
415.	<i>Pteroeides andamanense</i> Thomson and Simpson, 1909
416.	<i>Pteroeides punctatum</i> Thomson and Simpson, 1909
417.	<i>Pteroeides crassum</i> Kolliker
418.	<i>Pteroeides hymenocaulon</i> Bleeker, 1859

Sl. No.	Species
419.	<i>Pteroeides triradiata</i> Thomson and Handerson, 1906
420.	<i>Pteroeides esperi</i> Herklots, 1858
421.	<i>Pteroeides esperi</i> Herklots, var. <i>Armatum</i> Thomson and Simpson, 1909
422.	<i>Crassophyllum cristatum</i> Tixier-Durivault, 1961
423.	<i>Sarcostilus grandis</i> Gray, 1848
424.	<i>Sarcostilus rigidus</i> Williams, 1995
425.	<i>Ptilosarcus undulatus</i> (Verrill, 1865)
426.	<i>Pennatula indica</i> Thomson and Handerson, 1906
427.	<i>Pennatula veneris</i> Thomson and Handerson, 1906
428.	<i>Pennatula splendens</i> Thomson and Handerson, 1906
429.	<i>Pennatula pendula</i> Thomson and Handerson, 1906
430.	<i>Cavernularia elegans</i> Herklots, 1858
431.	<i>Cavernularia obesa</i> Valenciennes in Milne Edwards & Haime, 1850
432.	<i>Cavernularia lutkenii</i> Kolliker, 1872
433.	<i>Cavernularia orientalis</i> Thomson and Simpson, 1909
434.	<i>Cavernularia andamanensis</i> Thomson and Simpson, 1909
435.	<i>Cavernularia pusilla</i> (Phillipi, 1835)
436.	<i>Cavernularia malabrica</i> Fowler, 1894
437.	<i>Lituaria phalloides</i> (Pallas, 1766)
438.	<i>Lituaria hicksoni</i> Thomson and Simpson, 1909
439.	<i>Policella australis</i> Gray, 1860
440.	<i>Veretillum tenuis</i> (Marshall and Fowler, 1889)
441.	<i>Distichoptilum gracile</i> Verrill, 1882
442.	<i>Kophobelemnon burgeri</i> var. <i>Indica</i> Thomson and Handerson, 1906
443.	<i>Sclerobelemnon kollikeri</i> Thomson and Handerson, 1906
444.	<i>Umbellula durissima</i> Kolliker, 1880
445.	<i>Umbellula dura</i> Thomson and Handerson, 1906
446.	<i>Umbellula rosea</i> Thomson and Handerson, 1906
447.	<i>Umbellula purpurea</i> Thomson and Handerson, 1906
448.	<i>Umbellula elongate</i> Thomson and Handerson, 1906
449.	<i>Umbellula kollikeri</i> Thomson and Handerson, 1906
450.	<i>Umbellula radiata</i> Thomson and Handerson, 1906
451.	<i>Umbellula pendula</i> Thomson and Handerson, 1906
452.	<i>Umbellula indica</i> Thomson and Handerson, 1906
453.	<i>Anthoptilum murrayi</i> Kolliker, 1880
454.	<i>Funiculina quadrangularis</i> (Pallas, 1766)
455.	<i>Funiculina gracilis</i> Thomson and Handerson, 1906
456.	<i>Heliopora coerulea</i> (Pallas, 1766)

References:

- Alderslade, P. and Shirwaiker, P., 1991. A new species of soft corals (Coelenterata: Octocorallia) from The Laccadive Archipelago. *The Beagle, Records of the Northern Territory Museum of Arts and Sciences*, 8(1): 189-233, Figs. 1-48.
- Fabricius, K.E. and Alderslade, P., 2000. Soft Corals and Sea fans - A Comprehensive guide to the tropical shallow water genera of the Central west Pacific, the Indian Ocean and the Red sea. *Publication of Australian Institute of Marine Sciences*, Queensland., 264 p
- Jayasree, V., Bhat, K. L. and Parulekar, A.H., 1994. *Sarcophyton andamanensis*, a new species of soft coral from Andaman Islands. *Journal of the Andaman Science Association*, 10(1&2): 107-111.
- Jayasree, V., Bhat, K.L. and Parulekar, A.H., 1996. Occurrence and distribution of soft corals (Octocorallia: Alcyonacea) from the Andaman and Nicobar Islands. *Journal of Bombay Natural History Society*, 93: 202-208.
- Kumar, J.S.Y., Raghunathan, C. and Venkataraman, K., 2012. *Studies on new findings of Gorgoniidae from Ritchie's Archipelago Andaman and Nicobar Islands*. *International Journal of Science and*, 3(2): 395-405.
- Kumar, J.S.Y. and Raghunathan, C., 2012. *Recovery status of scleractinian corals and associated fauna in the Andaman and Nicobar islands*. *Phuket marine biological Center Research Bulletin*, 71: 63-70.
- Kumar, J. S. Y. and Raghunathan, C., 2015. Check List of Indian Gorgonians with a new report of *Melithaea variabilis* (Family : Melithaeidae) from Andaman and Nicobar Island, India. *Sch.Acad.J.Biosci.*, 3(9): 804-813.
- Kumar, J.S.Y., Raghunathan, C. and Chandra, K., 2018a. Annotated checklist of Octocorallia from Indian Coast. *LAP LAMBERT Academic Publishing*, Beau Bassin, Mauritius, (ISBN: 978-3-330-31737-6), pp.1-144.
- Kumar, J.S.Y., Geetha, S., Raghunathan, C. and Sornaraj, R., 2018b. Diversity and distribution of gorgonians (Octocorallia) in the Long Island and it's adjacent areas in Middle Andaman, India. *Indian Journal of Geo Marine Sciences*, 47(1): 96-102.
- Kumar, J.S.Y., Geetha, S., Raghunathan, C. and Sornaraj, R., 2018c. A note on shallow water octocorallia from Nicobar Islands, India. *Indian Journal of Geo Marine Sciences* 47(1): 60-66.
- Kumar, J.S.Y., Raghunathan, C., Geetha, S. and Venkataraman, K., 2014b. New species of soft corals (Octocorallia: Alcyonacea) on the coral reef of Andaman and Nicobar Islands. *International Journal of Integrative Sciences, Innovation and Technology*, 3(1): 8-11.
- Kumar, J.S.Y., Raghunathan, C., Raghuraman, R., Sreeraj, C. R. and Venkataraman, K., 2014c. *Handbook on Gorgonians (Octocorallia) of Andaman and Nicobar Islands*. Published by the Director, Zoological Survey of India, Kolkata, pp. 1-119.
- Marimuthu, N., Kumar, J.S.Y., Raghunathan, C., Vinithkumar, N.V., Kirubagaran, R., Sivakumar, K. and Venkataraman, K., 2017. North-South gradient of incidence, distribution and variations of coral reef communities in the Andaman and Nicobar Islands, India. *Journal of Coastal Conservation*, (2):289 - 301.
- Muley, E.V., J.R.B. Alfred, K. Venkataraman, and Wafar, M.V.M., 2000. Status of Coral Reefs of India. In: Moosa, M.K., Soemodihardjo, S., Soegiarto, A., Romimohtarto, K., Nontji, A. and Suharsono, S. (Ed.), *Proceedings of the Ninth International Coral Reef Symposium*, Bali. 23-27 Oct. 2000. 2:847-854.
- Rajendra, S. and Raghunathan, C., 2016. New Records of two Alcyonacean corals to Indian waters from Andaman Islands. *Rec. Zool. Surv. India*, 116 (3): 307-312.
- Rajendra, S., Raghunathan, C. and Chandra, K., 2017. New records of *Sarcophyton cornispiculatum* Versteveldt, 1971 (Octocorallia: Alcyonacea: Alcyoniidae) in India, from the Andaman Islands. *The European Zoological Journal*, 84 (1): 167-171.
- Rao, D.V. and Devi, K., 2003. Studies on the soft corals (Octocorallia: Alcyonacea) of Andaman Islands, Bay of Bengal. *Rec. Zool.Surv. India*, Occ. Paper No. 206: 1-99.

Thomson, J. A. and Henderson, W. D., 1906. *An account of the Alcyonarians collected by the Royal Indian Marine Survey Ship Investigator in the Indian Ocean*. Part I. The Alcyonarians of the deep-sea, (Calcutta: The Indian Museum), pp. 132.

Thomson, J.A. and Simpson, J.J., 1909. *An account of the alcyonarians collected by the R.I.M.S.S. investigator in the Indian Ocean II*. The alcyonarians of the littoral area, (Calcutta: The India Museum). pp. Xii+319.

Veniam, J.S. and Ofwegen, V.L.P. 1996. Soft corals from the Laccadives *Zoologische Mededelingen*, 70: 437-452.