

ZSI e-NEWS

The Monthly Electronic Newsletter of Zoological Survey of India



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IN THIS ISSUE

- ▶ Headquarters, Kolkata
- ▶ APRC, Itanagar
- ▶ MARC, Digha
- ▶ NERC, Shillong
- ▶ EBRC, Gopalpur-on-Sea
- ▶ SRC, Chennai
- ▶ ANRC, Port Blair
- ▶ MBRC, Chennai
- ▶ HARC, Solan
- ▶ FBRC, Hyderabad
- ▶ SRC, Canning
- ▶ DRC, Jodhpur
- ▶ NRC, Dehradun
- ▶ WRC, Pune
- ▶ CZRC, Jabalpur
- ▶ GPRC, Patna
- ▶ WGRC, Kozhikode

ANIMAL CALLS



**The Ornate
Narrow-
mouthed Frog**

VIDEO



**First instar
of a praying
mantis**

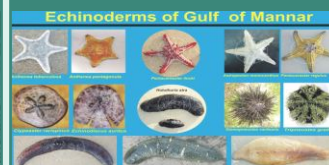
ZSI IN NEWS



PICTURE GALLERY



POSTER SERIES



PAINTINGS FROM ZSI HERITAGE ALBUM



Headquarters, Kolkata

Extensive field surveys were undertaken in the States of Himachal Pradesh, Uttar Pradesh, Sikkim, West Bengal, Eastern Ghats of Orissa and Sunderban Biosphere Reserve (West Bengal) and local surveys were carried out in and around the wetland areas (Bortibeel) of North 24 Parganas (West Bengal).

During the month, the discovery of *Polistes (Polistes) indicus* Stolfa (Hymenoptera: Vespidae: Polistinae) turned out to be a new record for India. The genus *Brachysomophys* Kaup (Pisces: Ophichthidae) and the species *B. cirrocheilos* (Bleeker), have also been recorded for the first time from the Indian coast, though it is known to occur in the Sri Lankan coast.

Out of the material studied 13 species of aquatic beetles (Coleoptera), belonging to the families Noteridae (2 species), Dytiscidae (5 species) and Hydrophilidae (6 species) were found to be new records to Surha Tal Wildlife Sanctuary, Ballia, Uttar Pradesh.

During the month, Scientists of Headquarters identified 5 species of parasitic nematodes, 16 species of Coleoptera, 4 species of Collembola, 10 species of Hemiptera, 4 species of Hymenoptera, 7 species of Isoptera, 12 species of Lepidoptera, 14 species of Odonata, 5 species of Orthoptera, 10 species of spiders, 14 species of mites, 2 species of Crustacea, 15 species of Mollusca, 11 species of freshwater fishes and 11 species of anurans from the States of Assam, Bihar, Delhi, Himachal Pradesh, Jharkhand, Karnataka, Madhya Pradesh, Maharashtra, Pondicherry, Rajasthan, Tamil Nadu, Uttar Pradesh and West Bengal.

Preliminary examination of the Macro invertebrate fossils (fossil animals of shallow marine zone), from the Cretaceous rock beds of

ANIMAL OF THE MONTH



Greater Adjutant Stork

Check-list of fauna of India:

Aquatic Coleoptera of India

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Narmada Valley, Madhya Pradesh revealed the presence of echinoids belonging to two species (*Hemiaster subsimilis* and *H. holoambitatus*).

Molluscan fossil forms from the Disang Group of rocks of Cenozoic era from Nagaland comprised of mostly tiny and moderately well preserved forms (12 species) of gastropods and pelecypods (18 species).

Identification services were rendered on seven lots of specimens, received from different organisations.

Eight research papers were published, 24 accepted for publication and 16 communicated.

Four students from Vivekananda College, Kolkata and a Ph.D. Scholar from Madurai visited the Arachnida Section to learn about the collection, preservation and identification of spiders and a scientist of Headquarters trained two students. A Lecturer from the Department of Zoology, Pandu College, Guwahati visited the Isoptera section to learn the identification methodology of termites of India.

Two Research fellows from Department of Life Sciences, Manipur University, three Research scholars from Department of Zoology, Calcutta University and one Research scholar from Burdwan University, visited different Sections of Headquarters to study the collections. Thirty two 5th semester students of St. Philomena's College, Mysore, along with their staff members visited different sections of Headquarters on 29th September.

A senior Scientist of Headquarters attended the "Workshop on National Training Policy" held at the Institute of Secretariat Training and Management, Dept. of Personnel and Training, New Delhi, on 20th & 21st September. Two ministerial staff of Headquarters attended the "Technical Workshop on Complexities in implementation of Revision of Pay, Pay Fixation, Revision of Pension/ Family Pension, TA, LTC, Medical attendance, Educational Allowance, New Pension Scheme, Fixation of




Polistes (Polistes) indicus Stolfi
(Hymenoptera: Vespidae), new record to India

Pay on MACP and GFR as amended and GPF/CPF/PF in view of sixth Pay Recommendation" held at the Institute of Socio Economic Research and Action (ISERA), New Delhi, from 16th to 18th September. A scientist of the Headquarters attended the "Expert meet to evolve a common classification on reef geomorphology and biotopes/ habitats, Environmental parameters and indicators of Change" at the Space Application Centre, Ahmedabad, on 28th September. A senior scientist delivered a talk on "Biodiversity of West Bengal" in a seminar held at Bankura Sammilani College, Bankura, West Bengal, and also attended a meeting on "Primary Type Information System and Database Management" held at SRC, ZSI, Chennai.

Publications:

1. Biswas, S., Mishra, S.S., Satapathy, K.K. and Selvanayagam, M. 2010. First record of stargazer snake eel *Brachisomophis cirrocheilos* (Osteichthys: Ophichthidae) from India. *Marine Biodiversity Records*, 3: 85 (1-3).
2. Gantait, V.V., Bhattacharya, T. and Chatterjee, A. 2010. Community analysis of nematodes in a banana plantation of West Bengal, India. *International Journal of Nematology*, 20 (1): 119-124.
3. Ghosh, S., Ghosh, P. and Mitra, B. 2010. On a collection of aquatic beetles from Surha Tal Wild life Sanctuary, Ballia, U.P. *Bionotes*, 12 (3): 95.

4. Girish Kumar, P. and Lambert Kishore, 2010. New record of *Polistes (Polistes) indicus* Stolfa from India (Hymenoptera: Vespidae: Polistinae). *Uttar Pradesh J. Zool.* 30 (2): 193-196.
5. Mitra, B. 2010. Diversity of flower- visiting flies (Insecta: Diptera) in India and their role in Pollination. *Rec. zool. Surv. India*, 110 (2): 95-107.
6. Mitra, B., Banerjee, D. and Parui, P. 2010. Diversity and distribution of true flies (Insecta: Diptera) in the Andaman and Nicobar Islands. In: *Recent Trends in Biodiversity of Andaman & Nicobar Islands*, (Eds. Ramakrishna, Raghunathan & Siva Peruman), pp. 467-493. Zoological Survey of India.
7. Mitra, B. and Sharma, R.M. 2010. E- Checklist of Indian Black Flies (Insecta: Diptera: Simuliidae). <http://www.zsi.gov.in/checklist/blackflies.pdf>
8. Mandal, G.P. 2010. Checklist of Indian Collembola (Insecta: Apterygota). <http://www.zsi.gov.in/checklist/collembola.pdf>

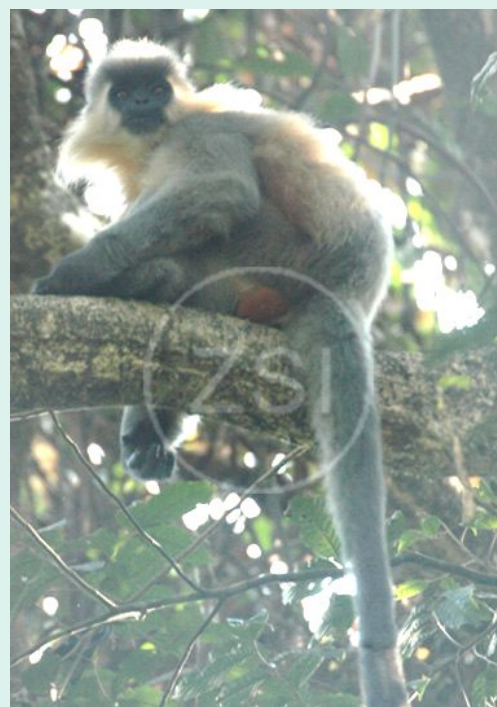
 In this Issue

Arunachal Pradesh Regional Centre, Itanagar

A scientific report on the studies of mammals of Arunachal Pradesh has been submitted. Sixty species of mammals were reported from Arunachal Pradesh through the study but various other studies have reported 215 species of mammals (this includes small mammals and chiropterans). The recently discovered Arunachal Macaque *Macaca munzala* is reported from areas around Tawang. This study also identified 27 species of mammals from Itanagar Wildlife Sanctuary. A team left for Eaglenest Wildlife Sanctuary and Kalaktang areas to carry out studies on water birds of Arunachal Pradesh from 24th September.

Publications:

1. Maheswaran, G., Deuiti, K. and Khan, R.A. (2010) Occurrence, abundance and ecology of Indian Sarus Crane *Grus antigone antigone* in



Capped Langur



Barking deer



Asiatic Black Bear



Students on their visit to the APRC museum

Uttar Pradesh and Bihar. *Rec. Zoo. Survey of India* 110(1): 71-81.

2. D. Suresh Chand and K.P. Sanjayan. (2010). Ecological efficiency of *Euproctis fraternal* (Moore) when fed on *Lannea coromandelica* (Houtt.) Merr. *J. Env. Bio-Sci.* 24 (2): 189-194.

 In this Issue

Marine Aquarium cum Regional Centre, Digha

During the month, 357 examples of live freshwater and marine ornamental fishes were collected for exhibiting in the aquarium. Among them, the attractions for the visitors were the Silver Conger Eel, *Muraenesox cinereus* and the spotted butterfly fish, *Scatophagus argus*. Hideouts were provided to some of the eels and groupers in the aquarium tanks. The study of change in the behavioural pattern in captivity of these species is undergoing. For faunal analysis, representative samples of fish and marine

invertebrates (Crustacea and Mollusca) were collected through local surveys. The species identified from the collection were *Cypselurus poecilopterus*, *Argyrops spinifer*, *Siganus canaliculatus*, *Liza subviridis* and *Liza macrolepis*. 97 examples of former collections were processed for digitisation work. Advisory services were rendered to the students from schools and colleges during their visit to the Centre.



Argyrops spinifer



Batfish



Flying fish



Spotted butterfly fish



Laced moray, *Gymnothorax favagineus*



Brown eel *Gymnothorax javanicus*



Stranded Bottlenose Dolphin, *Tursiops truncatus*



Stranded Irrawaddy dolphin, *Orcaella brevirostris*

In this Issue

North Eastern Regional Centre, Shillong

Field surveys were conducted in Mawlyngot village, Meghalaya on 2nd of September, to collect background information for making a documentary on the mass migration of earthworms in the area and in Loktak Lake and the Keibul Lamjao National Park, Manipur, from 15th - 27th September, to study the fauna of the area.



During the Hindi Diwas celebrated at NERC



The Hornbill specimen donated and maintained by NERC at Raj Bhavan, Shillong

During the month, 2 species of Amphibia and 5 species of freshwater fishes were identified and registered. Advisory service was rendered to Zoology Department, North Eastern Hill University, Shillong, on the identity of 5 species of fishes. Research scholars from the Assam Science Technology and Environmental Council, Guwahati, visited the Centre. On the

occasion of *Hindi Diwas*, various competitions to promote the use of official language, among the staff of the Centre, were organized from 3rd - 14th of the month. Prizes and certificates were

distributed to the winners. Maintenance service was rendered on a stuffed hornbill specimen displayed at Raj Bhavan, Shillong, which was donated to Raj Bhavan by the Centre in 1993.

 In this Issue

Estuarine Biology Regional Centre, Gopalpur-on-Sea

Twelve species of crabs were identified and registered from the Brahmani-Baitarani, Nuanai and Budhabalanga estuaries of Orissa. 7 species of prawns and 5 species of fishes were


also identified from the Budhabalanga and Cauvery estuaries, respectively. 21 visitors paid their visits to the museum during the month.



Garra mullia (Sykes)



Parapenaeopsis sculptilis (Heller)

 In this Issue

Southern Regional Centre, Chennai

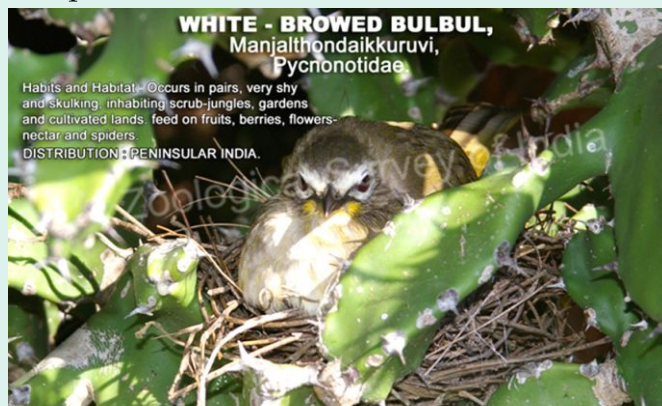
During the month, five species of cockroaches from Kanniyakumari Wildlife Sanctuary were identified and the biometric characters of *Puntius filamentosus* specimens from four localities were measured and analysed for population studies. 7 research papers were edited for the *Journal of Threatened Taxa* and 3 manuscripts were refereed for various research journals. One research paper was published.

A scientific team proceeded on a faunistic field survey tour of 21 days duration to the Southern Eastern Ghats of Tamil Nadu State from 20th September.

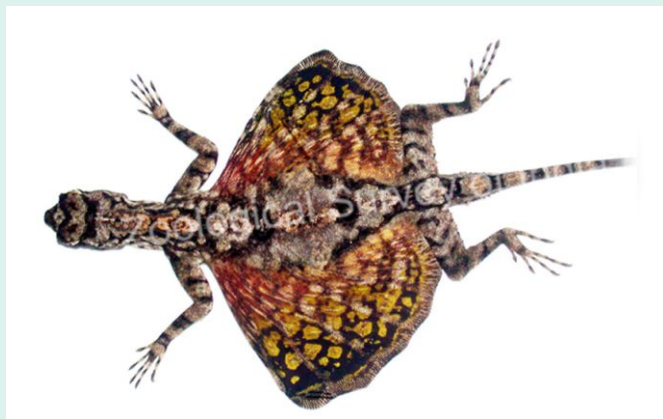
A senior scientist of the Centre conducted a Science Quiz programme for the scientists of the CSIR and conducted an inter-school elocution competition and science essay competition for the schools of Chennai. He also



Indian Peafowl



White-browed bulbul



Draco dussumieri Dum. & Bibr.




Eutropis beddomii (Jerdon)

participated in the Environmental friendly technologies-ground utilization by the Exnora of Pammal, Chennai. Another senior scientist of the Centre delivered the 'Dr Shantha Pattabhiraman Endowment Lecture' at the Post Graduate and Research Department of Zoology, Ethiraj College, in connection with

their Association Celebrations - "Fauna 2010".

Publication:

Prabakaran, S.2010. Studies on the Cockroach fauna of Karnataka (Insecta: Blattodea), *Rec. Zool. Surv. India*: 110 (Part-2): 109-119.

 In this Issue

Andaman and Nicobar Regional Centre, Port Blair

Marine and terrestrial surveys were conducted in Little Andaman Island from 9th to 16th and Great Nicobar Island from 9th to 26th September to study the corals and their associated faunal communities in the subtidal region, and invertebrate and vertebrate faunal components in terrestrial ecosystem. The coral monitoring studies indicated that 58.45% and 70.43% of corals in Little Andaman and Great Nicobar Islands respectively were bleached due to the increment of sea surface temperature during May 2010. Seventy species of corals, 54 species



Coral, *Tubipora musica*



Coral, *Heliopora coerulea*

of gastropods, 24 species of echinoderms, 16 species of fishes, 12 species of nudibranchs, 6 species of polyclads, 10 species of crustaceans, 9 species of sponges, 48 species of zooplankton and 27 species of phytoplankton were identified from the marine ecosystem of these Islands. Besides, 40 species of butterflies, 37 species of odonates, 56 species of birds and 2 species of mammals were identified from the Great Nicobar Island. Discovery of nudibranchs, *Chelidonura flavolobata* Heller & Thompson, 1983, *Chelidonura hirundinina*

(Quoy & Gaimard, 1832), *Philine angasi* (Crosse & Fishcher, 1865), *Sebadoris nubilosa* (Pease, 1871) and polyclads *Pseudoceros bifurcus*, *Pseudoceros concinnus* Laidlaw, 1903, *Psudobiceros damawan* Newman & Cannon, 1998, *Psudobiceros flavocanthus* Newman & Cannon, 1998 and *Paraplanocera oligoglena* Schmarda, 1865, turned out to be new records to Indian waters. In addition, 30 species of fishes were identified from the unnamed collection of the Centre. Manuscripts on new species and new records of corals, echinoderms, polyclads, gastropod & tunicates were

submitted for publication in different journals. 70 species of corals and 22 species of echinoderms were registered in the National Zoological Collection of the Centre. As per the request of Wildlife Division of Department of Environment and Forests, Port Blair, 2 species of sharks and 8 species of fishes were identified. Scientists of the Centre reviewed 4 manuscripts. *Hindi Fortnight* - 2010 was observed at the Centre from 1st to 15th September and various competitions were conducted for promoting the usage of official language.



Holothurian, *Actinopyga miliaris*




Sponge, *Iotrochota baculifera*



Sponge, *Stylissa massa*



Sponge, *Tedania (Tedania) anhelans*

 In this Issue

Marine Biology Regional Centre, Chennai

An extensive faunistic survey to the Gulf of Mannar Marine Biosphere Reserve was conducted from 16th-25th September and representative fauna collected from the offshore and inshore habitats. 16 species of marine sponges, 12 species of foraminiferans and 3

species of molluscs were identified and registered during this month. 77 different varieties of animals including fishes were introduced in the marine aquarium maintained at the Centre. 3 research papers were published and one communicated. One research paper

was reviewed. Two advisory services were rendered.

A senior scientist of the Centre delivered four lectures (in a one-day Intercollegiate Zoology Fest- *Saynapse*, at Stella Maris College, Chennai on Biodiversity Conservation in India and the Prospects; on Wild Life Casualties IMP level I training at Indian Coast Guard, Pollution Response Team - East, Chennai; in the International Workshop on Marine Biodiversity in India organized by Department of Geography, University of Madras, Chennai and on Status of Coral Reefs in India in the National Conference on Marine Biodiversity-Present Status and Prospects - MABPSAP-2010, organized by Department of Marine Science, Bharathidasan University, Thiruchirapalli) and also attended

the meeting of Board of Trustees, Chennai Snake Park Trust.

822 tourists and school children visited the marine aquarium.

Publications

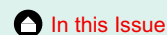
1. Venkataraman, K. 2010. Status of Coral reefs in India, PL 10. Plenary Talk. National Conference on "Marine Biodiversity Present Status and Prospects". P 16.
2. Bindu, L. 2010. Freshwater ciliates (Protozoa) from Kolkata wetlands. *Rec. Zool. Surv. India*. 110 (Part-2): 81-88
3. Bindu, L and A.K.Das. 2010. On some new records of testacids (Protozoa) from Pench National Park, Maharastra, India. *Rec. Zool. Surv. India*. 110 (Part-1): 31-34.



Seven armed sea star, *Luidia maculate*



Marine sponge, *Axinella* sp.



In this Issue

High Altitude Regional Centre, Solan

A faunistic survey of Kalatop-Khajjiar Wildlife Sanctuary was carried out from 5th -20th September. 3 species of Lepidoptera and 6 species of Orthoptera were identified from the area. As a part of the refresher course of the Himachal Pradesh University, a group of college teachers visited the Centre on 15th September and scientists of the Centre made visual presentations on topics such as 'Insects with special reference to butterflies and their role in conservation of Biodiversity' and 'Biodiversity, Man and Environment'. A scientist of the Centre acted as a resource person




The Nepalese Whiskered Bat, *Myotis muricola* (Gray)

and delivered an invited talk "Biodiversity: The

Butterfly, *Cyrestis thyodamas*

essence of Life" in a national seminar on biodiversity at the Government College, Panchkula, Haryana on 21st of the month. During the month, a research paper on the vocalization and breeding behavior of Red-wattled Lapwing was communicated to a national journal. "Hindi Pakhwara" was celebrated at the Center in collaboration with the Urdu Research and Training Centre, Solan from 21-22nd September.

 In this Issue

Freshwater Biology Regional Center, Hyderabad

Under the four ongoing research programmes, substantial field/ follow up laboratory studies were made on a few urban/semi-urban lakes in and around Hyderabad. The two raw water reservoirs, Osman and Himayat Sagar were limnologically surveyed. Besides, two other medium/small sized wetlands around the metropolitan limits were also surveyed during the month. Adhoc studies in two temporary water habitats-a small quarry pond and a natural depression located in undulating rocky terrain, closer to office premises were continued. Limnological evaluation/basic and detailed physicochemical parameters *vis-a-vis* occurrence/abundance of zooplankton indicator groups are in progress. The temporary water habitats appeared to be in various stages of ecological succession since the onset of rainy season. Studies on programme-aquatic entomofauna of a few lakes in and around Hyderabad have reached completion. Taxonomic

follow up studies on recent collections from raw water reservoir of Palair, Khammam district, are in progress. A chapter on observations on studies on faunal changes in Kolleru Lake, post dismantling of illegal aquacultural ponds, was finalised. An online publication- *Checklist of aquatic Coleoptera* has been submitted. Two identification and Advisory services were rendered.

A scientist of the Centre attended the fifth and final Expert Committee meeting of the "Committee for Revalidation of the Potential Yield of Indian EEZ (CRPY-EEZ)", held on 6th and 7th of September 2010 at CMFRI, Cochin. Required information has been provided for preparation of final report in the meeting. Another scientist of the Centre attended the meeting of Birdwatchers Society of Andhra Pradesh on 15th of the month. 'Hindi Diwas' (Hindi Day) was observed on 23rd September.



During the Hindi Diwas observed at FBRC

*Hemidactylus leschenaultii*

 In this Issue

Sunderban Regional Centre, Canning

A monthly local faunistic survey was conducted at Sunderbans on 10th September and representative faunal samples collected and preserved. Similarly, a seasonal survey was conducted from 15th to 24th September in and around the Ganga Sagar and Bakkhali beaches. The Brachyuran crab population was assessed by Quadrat method. The crab holes were counted within the quadrat for assessment. In

addition, an attempt was made to study the burrow pattern of the crabs by preparing the burrow casts using Plaster of Paris (PoP). During the survey, it was observed that the ecosystem is highly disturbed due to the frequent removal of sand from the sand dunes by people. The mangroves in the area were also observed in a disturbed condition due to various anthropogenic pressures.




Coastal ecosystem under threat due to sand mining



Mangroves under threat due to anthropogenic pressures



Plaster of Paris casts being prepared to study the burrow pattern of crab

 [In this Issue](#)

Desert Regional Centre, Jodhpur

During the month, 8 species of Nematoda, 6 species of Odonata, 6 species of Coleoptera and 4 species of Pisces from various environs of Rajasthan were identified. Scientists of the Centre proceeded on a faunistic survey tour to Sardar-samand Reservoir, Rajasthan from 23rd September. The *Hindi Week* was celebrated from 14th -20th September. 30 Trainees of the "65th Forest Guard Training Course" from the Desert Forest Training Centre, Jodhpur visited the Centre on 9th of the month and a lecture was

delivered to the trainees on Wildlife Conservation. 46 participants of "*Dusera Dashak Pariyojana*", Baap, Phalodi, visited the museum on 29th September and they were educated on the topic "Biodiversity, Environmental Awareness and Wildlife Conservation" by way of delivering lectures and screening wildlife movies. A scientist of the Centre participated in the DST sponsored training programme on "Scientific Administration & Research Management" at Administrative Staff College

of India, Hyderabad, from 6th -17th September. Staff of the Centre participated in the ZSI exhibition stall at “Kisan Mela”, organized by the Central Arid Zone Research Institute (ICAR), Jodhpur, on 29th. A scientist of the Centre presented a paper in the “National Conference on Marine Biodiversity- Present Status and Prospects (MABPSAP-2010)”, held at the Department of Marine Science, Bharathidasan University, Tiruchirappalli, Tamil Nadu from 16th-18th September. Identification services were rendered to a Ph. D. Scholar, Department of Zoology, Govt. College, Kota, on Lepidoptera, Odonata, Coleoptera and Hymenoptera. 42 entries pertaining to the identified fauna were made in the faunal

Database of the Centre. 235 entries pertaining to the books in the Centre's library was made employing the software, *e-granthalaya*.

126 visitors visited the Museum.

Publications

1. Bohra, P. 2010. Diversity of Nematodes of Andaman and Nicobar Islands. In: *Recent Trends in Biodiversity of Andaman & Nicobar Islands* .(Published by the Director, Zool. Surv. India, Kolkata). Pp.105-111.
2. Kumar, S. and Kumar, S. 2010. Insect diversity on teak plantation in Andaman Islands. In: *Recent Trends in Biodiversity of Andaman & Nicobar Islands* (Published by the Director, Zool. Surv. India, Kolkata). Pp.313-321.



A view of Aravalli Range around Jaipur



Papilio demoleus Linnaeus




DRC/ZSI exhibition Stall at 'KISAN MELA', Jodhpur

Northern Regional Center, Dehra Dun

Field surveys under the programmes on Kalesar Wildlife Sanctuary and Faunal inventorying of Dehra Dun were undertaken. Preparation of research manuscripts on butterflies, avifauna and Mammalian fauna of Kalesar Wildlife Sanctuary are in the final stage, whereas the manuscripts on the Aves and Mammals of Haryana State are under preparation. The manuscripts on Scolopendrid centipedes under the two programmes have been submitted. 9 species of butterflies, 4 species of Dorylamid Nematodes and 15

species of soil nematodes were identified during the month. Trematodes collected from amphibian hosts have been stained and are being identified. Advisory services on the use of Nomenclature for preparing the systematic list of birds, and identification service on birds based on photographs were rendered to outside parties. A senior scientist attended the TRAC Meeting (Training Research and Academic Council) of Wildlife Institute of India, as a nominated representative of ZSI.

 In this Issue

Western Regional Centre, Pune

Two species of Cladocera, *Scapholeberis microcephala* and *Alona diaphana*, and one subspecies *Biapertura affinis ornata* were recorded for the first time from India. These species were discovered while studying the plankton samples of Radhanagari Wildlife Sanctuary and Chandoli National Park. 1200 distribution records of Odonata of Western Ghats were compiled and computerised for the programme on the faunal Atlas of Odonata and 300 entries of Lepidoptera of Tadoba National Park were also computerized. A scientist of the Centre visited WGRC, ZSI, Calicut (Kozhikode) to complete the collaborative programme on


Atlas of Amphibia of the Western Ghats. A total of 134 endemic amphibian species were mapped in collaboration with the scientists of WGRC, Kozhikode. A field survey was conducted in the vicinity of the Lakes in the college campus of the Military Engineering, Pune, to study the Odonata (Insecta) and avian fauna. Scientists of the Centre prepared a document on the fauna of northern Western Ghats for the proposed IUCN World Heritage Sites and submitted to the Maharashtra Forest Department. Students of Post Graduate Department of Zoology, Pune University, visited the museum of the Centre, during the month.



Spot Billed Ducks (*Anas poecilorhyncha*) and Lesser Whistling Teals (*Dendrocygna javanica*)



Painted Francolin (*Francolinus pictus*)

 In this Issue

Central Zone Regional Centre, Jabalpur

Twenty three species of Rotifera from Veerangana Durgavati Wildlife Sanctuary and 3 species of Heteroptera as well as 7 species of Odonata from Madhya Pradesh & Chhattisgarh were identified during the month.

During the Golden Jubilee celebration of the Centre, a training programme of four days duration on 'Collection Preservation and Identification of Zoological Specimens' was organized from 6th to 9th September and two research publications of the Centre, "A compendium on the faunal resources of Narmada River Basin in Madhya Pradesh" and "Fauna of Bandhavgarh Tiger Reserve", were released. Scientists of the Centre delivered 8 lectures pertaining to various taxonomic techniques and the programme was attended by 35 participants from the various districts of Madhya Pradesh and Maharashtra. On 8th September, a day-night local field survey-cum-demonstration was also undertaken for the benefit of the participants at Veerangana Durgavati Wildlife Sanctuary. The 'Hindi Week' was observed from 14th to 20th of the month.

Six M.Sc. (Zoology) students from Govt. M. H. College of Home Science, Jabalpur was given project training at the Centre on 13th September, 2010. A senior scientist of the Centre delivered a lecture on "Insects and their Natural History" at the Indian Institute of Forest Management,

Bhopal, on 24th of the month to the Forest Guides of different National Parks of Madhya Pradesh. An interview given on population of crows was published in local Hindi newspaper, *Naidunia* on 22nd September. Information on Veerangana Durgavati Wildlife Sanctuary was provided to the reporter of a local Hindi Newspaper. Six B.Sc. students from St. Aloysius College were permitted for the internship at the Centre.



During the Golden jubilee celebrations of CZRC/ZSI

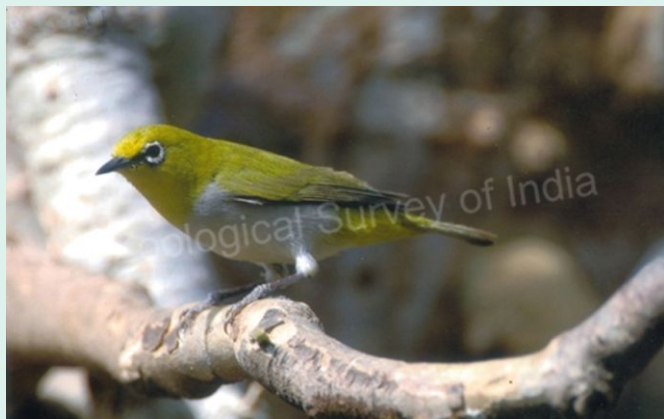
Birds of Veerangana Durgavati Wildlife Sanctuary



Indian Pond Heron- *Ardeola grayii*



White-necked stork- *Ciconia episcopus*

Oriental White-eye- *Zosterops palpebrosus*Common Tailor bird- *Orthotomus sutorius*

In this Issue

Gangetic Plains Regional Centre, Patna

Nine species of zooplanktons namely, *Brachionus forficula* (Wierzejski), *Keratella lenzi* (Hauer), *Lecane luna* (O.F.Muller), *Polyarthra vulgaris* (Ehrenberg), *Bosminopsis deitersi* (Richard), *Chydorus ventricoccus* (Daday), *Macrothrix laticornis* (Fischer), *Moina brachiata*

(Jurine) and *Moina macrocopa* (Staus) were identified during the month out of the zooplankton fauna collected from the river Subernrekha (Jharkhand).

The Hindi Diwas 2010 and the Hindi Fortnight 2010 were organized at the Centre.



During the Hindi Diwas 2010 and the Hindi Fortnight 2010 celebrated at GPRC

In this Issue

Western Ghat Regional Centre, Kozhikode (Calicut)

Two field surveys were conducted in Kakkavayal and Kakkad forest areas of Calicut (Kozhikode) district, Kerala on 4th & 23rd and Goa and Karnataka States from 4th to 13th September. During the month, 2 species of *Fusicornia* Risbec (Platygastridae: Hymenoptera: Insecta) were identified as new to science. Besides, 6 species of Pteromalidae (Hymenoptera: Insecta) and 6 species of Odonata (Insecta) were also identified from Western Ghats. 20 specimens of

Platygastridae were collected from 2 localities of Calicut district by setting up Malaise traps as well as Yellow pan traps. Data entries and corrections related to Amphibian atlas were done in collaboration with a scientist of WRC/ZSI, Pune.

Two research papers were published and two papers communicated. One research paper was reviewed and comments offered.

An identification/advisory service on the

confiscated specimen of Common Palm Civet, *Paradoxurus hermaphroditus* was rendered to the forest officials.

A scientist of the Centre attended a seminar on 'Managing Fragile Ecosystems of Peninsular Indian region: The research needs & priorities' on 15th September at M.E.S. Asmabi College, Kodungallur and delivered a talk on 'Faunal diversity of Mangroves of Kerala'. Besides, two scientists of the Centre delivered lectures on 'Facts and Concepts in Biodiversity' and 'Biodiversity of Kerala' to the students of Government Higher Secondary School for Girls, Nadakkavu, Calicut at the Centre on 17th September.

359 Visitors paid their visits to the museum.

Publications

1. K. P. Dinesh, C. Radhakrishnan and Anil

Zachariah. 2010. A checklist of Amphibia of Kerala. *Malabar Trogon*, 8(1):8-12.

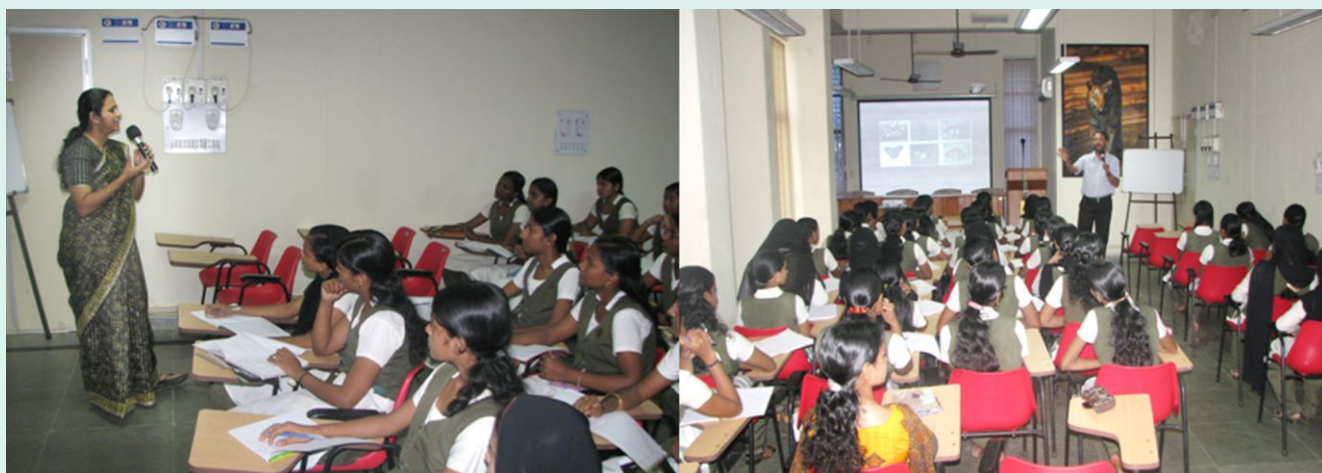
2. K. C. Gopi. 2010. Distribution, Status and Conservation of *Puntius denisonii* Day. *Malabar Trogon*, 8(1):24-25.



A confiscated Palm civet skin brought by the Forest Dept. officials for identification



Students from the Sadbhavana World School, Calicut, on their visit to the WGRC museum



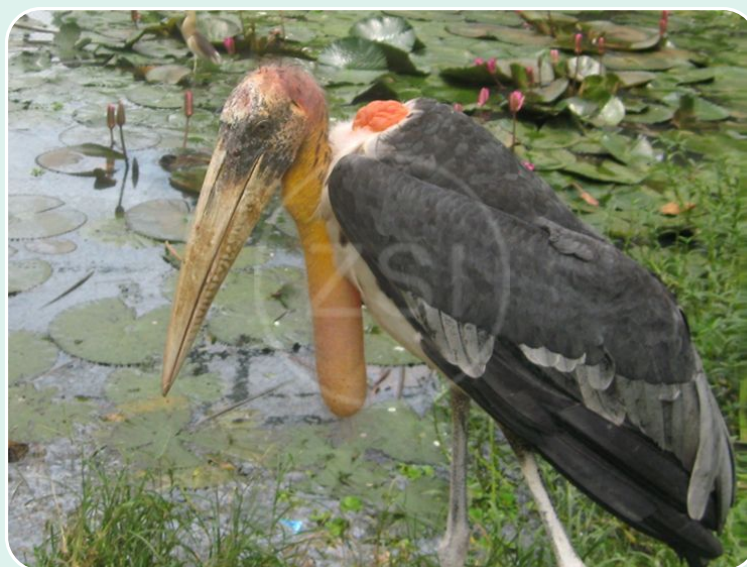
During the lectures delivered on Animal Diversity to the students of Vocational Higher Secondary Girls School, Nadakkavu, Kozhikode

ANIMAL OF THE MONTH

GREATER ADJUTANT STORK

Leptoptilos dubius (Gmelin)

[Text & Photo: North Eastern Regional Centre, Zoological Survey of India, Shillong]




The Greater Adjutant Stork is a very large bird standing at 145-150 cm and with a 250 cm wingspan. It has a massive bill and has a characteristic bare neck pouch. Its head is bald. It feeds on carrion, waste matters and sometimes small animals. The species commonly inhabits waste dumping grounds and wetlands and builds nests on high trees. After breeding (October to March), they disperse widely. In India, breeding individuals can be found in Assam. They are also found in Cambodia. Though there have been records of

this bird in Bangladesh, Nepal and Thailand, they are considered wanderers from India and Cambodia. The main threat to the Greater Adjutant Stork is destruction of its breeding habitats due to deforestation and pollution of wetlands. The bird is included in the Red list Category and is endangered. Its population shows a declining trend.

Further reading:

<http://www.iucnredlist.org/apps/redlist/details/144792/0>

 In this Issue

ZSI IN NEWS



News from WGRC, Calicut (Kozhikode) (Please zoom to read)

MALABAR JYOTHI 2009-2010 (pp 27-28)
Town Official Language Implementation Committee, Calicut

मलबार् ज्योती

भारतीय प्राणि-विज्ञान सर्वेक्षण -कार्यालय के कोषिकोट स्थित पश्चिमी-पाट क्षेत्रीय केंद्र द्वारा आयोजित विभिन्न कार्यक्रम

अपने नियमित वैज्ञानिक अनुसंधानों के अतिरिक्त भारतीय प्राणि-विज्ञान सर्वेक्षण के कोषिकोट स्थित पश्चिमी-पाट क्षेत्रीय केंद्र आम जनता के हित में प्रकृति संरक्षण के संबंध में कुछ विशेष कार्यक्रम आयोजित करके जनता को विशेष जानकारी प्रदान करता है।

जागरण कार्यक्रम:

केंद्र द्वारा 22.05.2009 को अंतर्राष्ट्रीय जैव विविधता (बयोडायवर्सिटी) दिवस मनाया गया। इस संबंध में मलबार् अन्वेषणीय प्राणि-जगत् को एक प्रदर्शनी के रूप में प्रस्तुत किया गया। प्रदर्शनी में 69 हमलावर जीवों को 32 जीवों का प्रदर्शन किया गया था। अन्तर्गत और माध्यमों के द्वारा इस कार्यक्रम को चर्चा प्रशंस की गई। केंद्र का सकारात्मक प्रतिक्रिया अभियान कार्यक्रम के तत्वावधान में प्राथमिक स्कूल अभ्यासों के लिए पश्चिमी पाट के नामांकित समूह संबंधी एक व्याख्यान 8.5.2009 को और दो दिवसीय कार्यशाला 8.7.2009 और 9.7.2009 को आयोजित की गई थी। 11.8.2009 और 18.8.2009 को कोषिकोट

के गुरुवापुरम कालेज के प्राणि-विज्ञान विभाग के दूसरे और तीसरे साल के स्नातक विद्यार्थियों के लिए पश्चिमी पाट के प्राणि-समूह के बारे में एक "एक दिवसीय कार्यक्रम" आयोजित किया गया। अन्तर्गत के अन्वेषण के प्रशिक्षण संस्थान, कोल्लरता और कोषिकोट के 70 प्रशिक्षार्थियों के लिए पश्चिमी पाट के विशेष संदर्भ में भारतीय प्राणि-समूह संबंधी एक दिवसीय कार्यशाला 9.10.2009 को आयोजित की गई। इसी प्रकार को कार्यशाला कोषिकोट नगरपालिका के रक्षक परिवर्तन के लक्ष्य पर संचालित स्कोर के 40 अन्वेषकों के लिए भी आयोजित की गई।

इस केंद्र ने कोयम्बतूर के जूअर-आइडरी संगठन के साथ संयुक्त रूप में अन्वेषण महीने के प्रथम सप्ताह में जंगली जंगल सप्ताह 2009 मनाया। इस कार्यक्रम के दौरान स्मृत विद्यार्थियों के लिए जैव विविधता के संरक्षण और विकास के बारे में प्रदर्शनी और बाद विवाद कार्यक्रम आयोजित किए गए। इस कार्यक्रम से विद्यार्थियों और वैज्ञानिकों को एक दूसरे के साथ मिलाने का अवसर मिला।

प्रशिक्षण कार्यक्रम:

केंद्र को मेगाला में दिनांक 17.3.2010 से 19.3.2010 तक विविध क्षेत्रीय केंद्रों के वैज्ञानिकों को "प्रशिक्षण अभ्यास की अन्तर्गत प्रवर्तन" पर दो दिवसीय प्रशिक्षण कार्यक्रम आयोजित किया गया।

व्याहार:

केंद्र ने अंग्रेज त्योहार के समय धूमध्वनि रूप से पुष्पवृद्धि (अंग्रेज के समय घर के गीत में रंगीली



जैव की जांचवाली फूलों को सजावट) सजाकर अंग्रेज मनवा। अंग्रेज त्योहार संबंधी रीति-रिवाज और विचारों के बारे में प्रदर्शनी कार्यक्रम को अपने केंद्र के सदस्यों के लिए आयोजित किया।



नगर राजभाषा कार्यान्वयन समिति के तत्वावधान में संयुक्त हिन्दी सम्मेलन के दौरान आयोजित हिन्दी भाषण और हिन्दी कविता पाठ प्रतियोगिताएँ केंद्र में आयोजित की गईं।

28

News from CZRC, Jabalpur (Please zoom to read)

चित्तूर-समाचार जवाहर, मलबार् 7 सितम्बर 2010

अनूठा है जीव जंतुओं का संसार

जैव विविधता का संरक्षण प्रसूतक विमोचित, प्राणी संरक्षण विभाग का स्वर्ण जयंती वर्ष

जैव विविधता का संरक्षण प्रसूतक विमोचित, प्राणी संरक्षण विभाग का स्वर्ण जयंती वर्ष

जैव विविधता का संरक्षण प्रसूतक विमोचित, प्राणी संरक्षण विभाग का स्वर्ण जयंती वर्ष

सटीक भास्कर

भारतीय प्राणी संरक्षण एवं संवर्धन के स्वर्ण जयंती वर्ष पर कार्यक्रम

व्यावहारिक तौर पर जुड़े अनुसंधान से

जैव विविधता का संरक्षण प्रसूतक विमोचित, प्राणी संरक्षण विभाग का स्वर्ण जयंती वर्ष

just जबलपुर

सवाल आज का नहीं, कल का

जबलपुर जैव विविधता का संरक्षण प्रसूतक विमोचित, प्राणी संरक्षण विभाग का स्वर्ण जयंती वर्ष


INTERESTING PHOTO SHOTS



Spotted munias are known to make well hidden, well protected and water proof nests. Mrs. R. Mathew, former scientist of ZSI, photographed one such nest in Pune, Maharashtra, which even housed a cricket ball! The children who lost the ball could not trace it within the thicket and that shows how hidden the nest is.



Photographed by Anand Kumar Ayyaswamy of FBRC/ZSI, Hyderabad

 In this Issue



PICTURE GALLERY

சில தமிழ்நாட்டு பாலூட்டிகள் Some Mammals of Tamilnadu



Common House Shrew
Suncus murinus murinus (Lin.)
முத்து எலி



Indian Flying Fox
Pteropus giganteus giganteus (Brunnich)
பழம் தின்னி வெளவால்



False Vampire bat
Megaderma spasma horsfieldii Blyth



Slender Loris
Loris tardigradus (Linnaeus)
தேவாக்கு



Bonnet Macaque
Macaca radiata (Geoffroy)
நாட்டுக் குரங்கு



Lion-tailed Macaque
Macaca silenus (Linnaeus)
சிங்கவாலி குரங்கு



Hanuman Langur
Semnopithecus entellus (Dufresne)
அனுமான் குரங்கு



Nilgiri Langur
Trachypithecus johnii (Fischer)
நீலகிரி குரங்கு



Southern Regional Centre
Zoological Survey of India



Grey Heron

PHOTO by G. SANKARAN
ZSI/SRC/CHENNAI



GREATER FLAMINGO
பூநாரை/உறியன்

Photo by
G. Sankaran
Zoological Survey of India,
SRC, Chennai

Habits and Habitat : Gregarious ;
Mud -nest building; found on
brackish lakes, lagoons, sea
coast, estuaries, mud flats; feed
on fish, frogs, aquatic invertebrates, etc.
Distribution : Throughout India.



POSTER SERIES

9



In this Issue

MBRC, Chennai

PAINTINGS FROM ZSI HERITAGE ALBUM

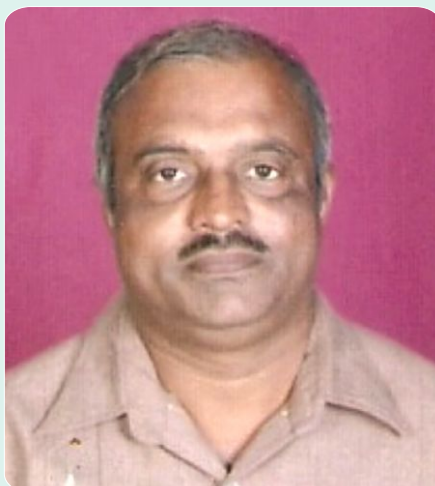
8

Jerdon's Courser *Rhinoptilus bitorquatus* (Blyth)



In this Issue

OBITUARY

**Dr. Bhaskar Eknath Yadav**

(12.12.1954 to 26.9.2010)

Born in a modest family in Pune, Maharashtra, India, Dr. Bhaskar Eknath Yadav was working as Scientist at the Western Regional Centre, Zoological Survey of India, Pune. He rose to the position of a scientist in the department with his sheer hard work.

Though Dr. Yadav did his Ph.D on the Systematics and Zoogeography of the fishes of Western Ghats, his main area of interest remained in Taxonomy and Ecology of Scolopendrid centipedes. He published more than 100 research papers in various journals of repute.

Dr. B. E. Yadav acted as co-guide for nine projects including seven on the fishes and two on centipedes for M.Sc. students under the Pune University and extended guidance and suggestions for research, leading to the award of Ph.D. degree to many lecturers and students in the Maharashtra State.

He was a fine person and his untimely death is a loss to the scientific fraternity.

Let his soul rest in peace.

