

ZSI e-NEWS

The Monthly Electronic Newsletter of Zoological Survey of India



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VIDEO



Malayan
Box Turtle

ZSI
IN
NEWS



PICTURE GALLERY



PAINTINGS FROM ZSI HERITAGE ALBUM



Headquarters, Kolkata

Extensive faunal surveys were undertaken in the States of Assam, Himachal Pradesh, Maharashtra, Uttar Pradesh and Bhimbhuti Bhusan Wildlife Sanctuary, sacred groves of the Bankura district as well as the wetland areas (Bortibeel) of West Bengal. Local surveys were also carried out in and around North 24 Parganas, West Bengal.

During the month, scientists of Headquarters identified 5 species of parasitic nematodes, 25 species of Hemiptera, 25 species of Hymenoptera, 4 species of Isoptera, 3 species of Lepidoptera, 5 species of Odonata, 4 species of Orthoptera, 16 species of Arachnida, 14 species of Molluscs and 11 species of Amphibia from the States of Himachal Pradesh, Jharkhand, Uttar Pradesh, West Bengal, Orissa, and the Kanyakumari W.L.S., Tamil Nadu and Namdapha National Park, Arunachal Pradesh. Discovery of *Torquigener brevipinnis* (Regan) (Pisces: Tetraodontiformes) turned out to be a new record for India.

Identification services were rendered on four lots of specimens, received from different organizations. Digital photographs of frogs received from Prof. S.K. Sou of Kult College, Burdwan, West Bengal were also identified.

Two research papers were published, 14 accepted for publication and 13 communicated. The Director-in-Charge, delivered an invited talk during the UGC Refresher Course held at Manipur University, Manipur. Six scientists of Headquarters participated/delivered lectures in Professor P. N. Ganapati Centennial Symposium on 'Landmark Research in Marine Biology -The Indian Context' held from 9th-10th October, at Andhra University, Visakhapatnam; on the 'Status Survey of Fresh Water Turtle *Nilssonina leithii* (Gray, 1872) in Karnataka State, India", in the "Workshop & Core-Group Meeting on Indian Freshwater Turtle & Tortoises Conservation Priority Areas and Initiatives', organized by Turtle Survival Alliance on 23rd October at Lucknow; on 'Coral Reefs -The Paradises underwater: Their Monitoring and Conservation' in a State Level Seminar on 'Biodiversity and Conservation: Assessment and Awareness' at

ANIMAL OF THE MONTH



Himalayan black bear

Check-list of fauna of India:

Indian Tachinid Flies

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Hooghly Mohsini College, Hooghly on 29th and 30th October and the 'Workshop on Communication Skills' held at the Institute of Secretariat Training and Management, Dept. of Personnel and Training, New Delhi, from 25th to 27th October. The 22nd National Congress of Parasitology was organized by the Department of Zoology, Kalyani University, West Bengal. ZSI was one of the collaborators of the Congress and two scientists of Headquarters attended and presented papers in the Congress.

ZSI celebrated Wildlife Week at Chinsura in collaboration with Mohsin College, Hugli on 27th October. Sit & Draw competition, Quiz competition and Nature Trail were organized and 65 students participated. Scientists from ZSI Headquarters also participated in the programme.

Seven Ph.D. scholars from various Universities visited different sections of Headquarters to learn the techniques of collection, preservation and identification, pertaining to the respective faunal groups of their interest.

Publications:

1. Paramita Saha Sarkar, Joy Krishna De and Chanchal Kumar Manna. 2010. Identification of Dorsal Guard Hair of Seven Species of the Family Cercopithecidae (Primate: Mammalia), *Proc. zool. Soc.*, 63(2):121-128.
2. Murthy, B.H.C.K. and Indraneil Das, 2010. The Turtle Collections of the Zoological Survey of India, Kolkata, India. *Envis Bulletin*, 12(1): 15-24.

Wildlife Week Celebration 2010 at Headquarters



Nature Trail



Quiz Contest



Sit & Draw Competition

 In this Issue

Northern Regional Center, Dehra Dun

Two surveys were undertaken in Jhilmil Conservation Reserve and identified 11 species of butterflies and 26 species of birds. Besides, 3 surveys were undertaken in Dehradun and its environs, during the month.

Research manuscripts pertaining to the fauna of Kalesar Wildlife Sanctuary, dealing with 84 species of butterflies and 10 species of Centipedes have been finalised, in addition to those on Aves and Mammals. Research manuscripts on Amphibia and soil nematodes are in the final stages of compilation. Of the 45

species of nematodes dealt with in the findings, 3 turned out to be new records from India. Besides, 12 species of acridids (Orthoptera: Insecta) have also been identified from the area. From Haryana, butterflies belonging to 8 families have been identified; manuscript on Aves, dealing with over 500 species and reptiles belonging to 37 species are under preparation. The centipedes identified during the month were registered. One research paper has been published. Nine research papers received for reviewing were reviewed and offered suitable

comments.

A scientist of the Centre attended the training programme on Climate Change and Carbon mitigation from 4th-8th October at ICFRE, Dehra Dun.

Publication:

Rizvi, A. N. 2010. First record of three species of soil nematodes of the Sub-Order Cephalobina from Ladakh Region, India. *J. Threatened Taxa*, 2(11): 1286-1290.

 In this Issue

Central Zone Regional Centre, Jabalpur

During the month, 7 species of Scarabaeid beetles (Coleoptera) were identified and male genitalia of 35 specimens were mounted for Taxonomic studies. Besides, a backlog collection of 13 species of Odonata (Anisoptera) from Madhya Pradesh & Chhattisgarh were also identified. Identification service was rendered on 2 species of Odonata received from the Tropical Forest Research Institute, Jabalpur and 2 advisory services were rendered to outside parties. Scientists of the Centre attended the following programmes and delivered talks on various aspects of Biodiversity conservation: National Conference on Biodiversity Conservation-Problems and Prospects, organized by the Hawabagh Women's College, Jabalpur on 6th

October; National Workshop for Development of Chhattisgarh State CAMPA Vision 2020 at Raipur, Chhattisgarh on 12th and 13th October; educational meet at St. Aloysius College, Jabalpur on 14th October; 3rd Asian Lepidoptera Conservation Symposium from 25th to 29th October at Bharathiyar University, Coimbatore, Tamil Nadu. Three students of M.Sc., Zoology from Govt. Science College, Jabalpur were trained on their project on 'Faunal Diversity of Jabalpur district' from 25th to 28th October. Six B. Sc. Students from St. Aloysius College, and eight M. Sc. students from Govt. M. H. College of Home Science & Science, Jabalpur completed their internship of 45 days on the faunal diversity of Jabalpur district during the month.

Birds of Veerangana Durgavati Wildlife Sanctuary, Madhya Pradesh



The Indian Nightjar, *Caprimulgus asiaticus*



Eggs of Indian Nightjar, *C. asiaticus*



The small pratincole, *Glareola lacte*



The Painted stork, *Mycteria leucocephala*

 In this Issue

Gangetic Plains Regional Centre, Patna

Out of the assigned annual programmes, an adhoc study in a pond, the Mamu Bhanja Pokhara, at Hajipur (Vaishali) was undertaken for the monthly sampling/study of molluscan fauna. Representative riverine fauna was collected from the River Damodar in Jharkhand and West Bengal, for faunal inventorying. Out of the fishes collected, *Labeo bata*, *Channa punctata*, *Oreochromis mossambicus*, *Esomus danricus*, *Ailia coila*, *Cirrhinus reba* and *Gudusia chapra* were identified. The molluscan fauna identified were, *Thiara lineata*, *Thiara granifera*, *Melanoides tuberculata*, *Indoplanorbis exustus*, *Radix leuteola*, *Gyraulus conexiusculus*, *Corbicula*

striatella and *Bellamyia* sp.

Scientists of the Centre attended the Wildlife Board Meeting of Jharkhand State on 7th October and presented a paper in the National Conference on Interdisciplinary approaches in Environmental Sciences at the Department of Zoology, The Maharaja Sayajirao University of Baroda, Gujarat on 9th and 10th October. One Research fellow and 5 M.Sc. students of Patna University visited the Centre for taking help in the identification of Mollusca and also consulted the literature available in the library.

 In this Issue

North Eastern Regional Centre, Shillong


A field survey was conducted in East Khasi Hills District, Meghalaya from 25th to 29th October to study the cerambycid (Coleoptera: Insecta) fauna. During the month, 2 species of fishes and 7 species of anuran amphibians from the earlier Manipur State survey were identified. In addition, 2 examples of caecilians, belonging to the genera *Ichthyophis* and *Indotyphlus*, were identified for the first time from West Khasi Hills District, Meghalaya.

Laboratory facilities were provided to a student from Ashoka Trust for Research in Ecology & the Environment (ATREE), Bangalore, for studying the ant specimens in the Centre's holdings.



Malayan Box Turtle, *Cuora amboinensis* (Daudin, 1802)
from Loktak Lake Manipur

Besides, advisory services and laboratory facilities were also provided to 3 research scholars from the Manipur University, for studying the fish specimens at the Centre.

 In this Issue

Arunachal Pradesh Regional Centre, Itanagar

A field survey in Eaglenest Wildlife Sanctuary, Kalaktang and surroundings of Arunachal Pradesh was undertaken from 24th September to 3rd October, to study the waterbirds of Arunachal Pradesh. During the survey, the Red-throated Flycatcher *Ficedula parva*, a migratory species which breeds in Western Himalaya and winters in Arunachal Pradesh during October was observed abundantly. The Blue Rock Thrush, *Monticola solitarius*, another winter visitor to the region, breeding in Baluchistan and Himalaya was also observed.

In the Eaglenest Wildlife Sanctuary, 2 species of resident minlas namely, Chestnut-tailed Minla, *Minla strigula* and Red-tailed Minla, *M. ignotincta*, were observed very commonly. The other birds recorded were, Stripe-throated Yuhina, *Yuhina gularis*, Rufous-vented Yuhina, *Yuhina occipitalis*, the threatened Ward's Trogon, *Harpactes wardi* and the beautiful Sibia, *Heterophasia pulchella*. 120 school children visited the museum and library of the Centre, during the month.

Beautiful Siberia, *Heterophasia pulchella*Blue Rock Thrush, *Monticola solitarius*Chestnut-tailed Minla, *Minla strigula*Red-throated Flycatcher, *Ficedula parva*Stripe-throated Yuhina, *Yuhina gularis*Ward's Trogon, *Harpactes wardi*

In this Issue

Marine Aquarium cum Regional Centre, Digha

The Aquarium received an average of 2,250 visitors per day during the *Durga Puja* school vacation week. During the month, around 327 examples of live marine fishes and 80 fresh water ornamental fauna were procured for the aquarium tanks. Among the exhibits, Red finger starfish (*Linkia leavigata*), Carpet anemone (*Stictodactyla martensi*) and Sebae clown fishes (*Amphiprion sebae*) turned out to be the main attractions. Other exhibits were *Legocephalus scleratus* (Silver cheeked toadfish), *Pampus cinereus* (Pomfret), *Gobiodes rubicundus* (Eelgoby) and *Nuchequula gerreoides* (Decorated

Ponyfish). A study on ecto-parasites of ornamental fishes was initiated during the



Sebae clown fish and anemone



Ectoparasite on fish

month. Under the annual plan of research work, 54 examples of fishes and 11 examples of marine invertebrates (mollusks, crustaceans & cnidarians) were collected through local surveys. Around 35 specimens of fishes from previous collections were also identified. A group of M.Phil. students from Jadavpur University, Kolkata visited the Centre during the month for their curriculum studies.

 In this Issue

Marine Biology Regional Centre, Chennai

A faunistic survey in Palk Bay and Gulf of Mannar Marine Biosphere Reserve was conducted from 25th 31st October and representative fauna collected from the offshore and inshore habitats for taxonomic studies. Two species of soft corals and 14 species of foraminiferans were identified and registered. One Galley proof was corrected and resubmitted to Ministry of Environment & Forests, New Delhi for publication. Two advisory services were rendered. Different varieties of animals including ornamental fishes and sea snakes were introduced in the marine aquarium. A senior scientist of the Centre delivered a lecture on 'Impact of Climate

Change on coral reefs and its conservation' at Tamil University, Tanjavur and identified ornamental items made of molluscs and the report sent to Oddyssey India Ltd, Chennai. Scientists of the Centre attended the 2nd Regional training programme on 'Project Cycle Management (RTC-2)', jointly organized by MOEF, New Delhi, IUCN & MSSRF, held at Chennai, the workshop on the "Right to Information Act for CPIO's" conducted by ISTM, New Delhi as well as the Institutional Animal Ethics Committee (IAEC) meeting at SRM college of pharmacy, Kattangulathur as CPCSEA nominee. 364 tourists and school children visited the marine aquarium.

Indian Chank, *Turbinella pyrum*Spotted Eagle Ray, *Aetobatus narinari*

 In this Issue

Southern Regional Centre, Chennai

A team of Scientists of the Centre completed the faunal survey of the southern Eastern Ghats (Pachamalai Hills, Kalroyan Hills, Shevroy Hills & Kolli Hills) from 20th September-10th October and collected representative faunal samples for faunal documentation. Cockroaches belonging to 3 genera were identified. An article on 'Some free living Protozoa (Rhizopoda) from Veerangana Durgavati Wildlife Sanctuary, Madhya Pradesh' was finalised. 2 Ph.D. students of Govt. Arts College, Kumbakonam were guided on the taxonomy of freshwater fishes. 2 research papers were published, 1 was accepted for publication and 3 communicated. A senior scientist edited 6 papers for the *Journal of Threatened Taxa*, reviewed 2 project proposals for the Asia Pacific Network for Changed Global Research in Environment, Japan, identified 2 fish specimens for students of Sri Ramachandra Medical University and attended a function on Environment Friendly Technology by Exnora, Chennai, as a special

invitee. An invited lecture on 'Awareness on Indian Snakes' was delivered by a scientist of the Centre to the students from the Raja Muthaiya Boys Hr. Sec. School, R. A. Puram Chennai, in the NSS training camp held on 12th October. Two scientists of the Centre participated in the IUCN Western Ghat Freshwater Biodiversity Assessment Evaluation Workshop held at Coimbatore from 7th - 11th October and attended the first meeting of 'Core Advisory Committee' at the Indian Council of Medical Research, New Delhi on 13th of the month, as member on vector biology.

Publications:

1. Rema Devi, K., Sathish Kumar, V. M, M. Beta and Ranjit Manakadan. 2010. Exploring Freshwater Fishes of India. *Hornbill* (April-June): 34-38.
2. Thilak J. 2010. On a collection of Rotifers from Veerangana Durgavati Wildlife Sanctuary, Damoh district, M.P. *Bionotes*, 12(3): 91-92.



Puntius tambraparnei, endemic to Tambraparni River basin



Devario malabaricus, endemic to Kerala



The saw-scaled-viper, *Echis carinatus*



Sand flies being collected

Andaman and Nicobar Regional Centre, Port Blair

Surveys on marine and terrestrial ecosystems in Ritchie's Archipelago and North Bay were undertaken during 1st-13th and 19th-21st October respectively to study the coral and its associated organisms and terrestrial faunal components. Coral monitoring studies indicated that the recently bleached corals, overgrown by microalgae and sponges, have meager chance for replenishing in most of the places of study. However, several new recruits of corals could be noticed in the reef area of North Bay. Besides, 85 species of corals, 10 species of sponges, 7 species of echinoderms, 36 species of gastropods, 9 species of fishes, 17 species of

crabs, 48 species of zooplankton and 27 species of phytoplankton were identified from the marine environment. In the terrestrial counterpart, 56 species of butterflies, 113 species of birds and 8 species of mammals were recorded. In addition, 40 species of fishes were identified from the unnamed collections of the Centre. Among the corals identified, *Acanthastrea regularis* Veron, 2000; *Cysphastrea chalcidum* (Forskal 1775); *Favia veroni* Moll and Borel-Best 1984; *Lobophyllia hataii* Yabe and Sugiyama, 1936; *Plesiastrea devantieri* Veron, 2000 and *Psammacora obtusangula* (Lamarck, 1816), turned out to be new records to Indian



Black-naped Monarch, *Hypothymis azurea*



Nicobar Pigeon *Caloenas nicobarica*



Coral, *Fungia rependa*



Reef fish, *Amphiprion ocellaris*



Sponge, *Clathria (Thalysias) cervicornis*



Sponge, *Rhabdastrella globostellata*

waters. A manuscript on the status of endangered sea-cow *Dugong dugon* in Andaman and Nicobar Islands has been submitted for publication. 69 species of corals and 19 species of echinoderms were registered in the National Zoological Collection of the Centre.

Scientists of the Centre delivered lectures on various aspects of the faunal diversity in A&N

Islands in the Seminar on 'Wildlife conservation in A & N Islands and our contribution', organized by the Dept. of Environment and Forests, A & N Administration, on the occasion of the 56th Wildlife Week and presented a paper in the '3rd Asian Lepidoptera Conservation Symposium and Training Programme' held at Bharathiar University, Coimbatore.

 In this Issue

High Altitude Regional Centre, Solan

Two species of Lepidoptera, 3 species of Orthoptera and 2 species of Reptilia were identified from Kalatop-Khajjiar Wildlife Sanctuary. Two abstracts were submitted for the National Conference on Environmental degradation and its impact on mankind, to be held in Punjabi University, Patiala in November, 2010. A scientist of the Centre


delivered a talk on 'Butterflies as indicators of sustainability in the natural ecosystem with special reference to high altitude (Himachal Pradesh and Jammu & Kashmir)' at the third Asian Lepidoptera Conservation Symposium and Training Programme held at Coimbatore, from 25th -29th October, and also chaired a session.



Tor putitora from Himachal Pradesh

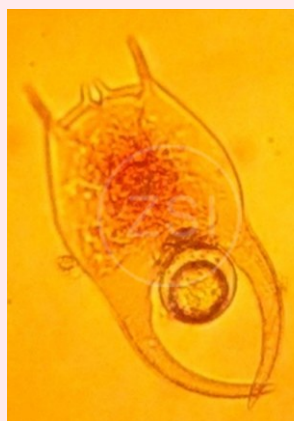


Black Drongo from Himachal Pradesh

 In this Issue

Freshwater Biology Regional Center, Hyderabad

During the month, 18 species of Rotifera, 7 species of Cladocera, 8 species of aquatic coleopteran and 9 species of fish nekton were identified. Quantitative enumeration of major zooplankton groups were conducted in 5 small to medium sized fresh water lakes besides carrying out qualitative taxonomic identification studies on zooplankton community structures and dynamics. Preliminary taxonomic analysis studies revealed, plankton blooms of populations of *Keratella tropica* (Apstein, 1907), a common rotifer and *Daphnia lumholtzi* (Sars, 1885) in two



Brachionous forficula
(Rotifera)



Lecane (L.) leontina
(Rotifera)

lakes. Further analysis of the ecological phenomenon *monotony* of populations is in progress for evaluating physicochemical and aquatic ecological factors triggering Zooplankton blooms in the two lake ecosystems. A field survey tour of 20 days was undertaken for finalizing Ichthyofaunal taxonomic identification of collections from

Brahmani-Baitarani Estuary/ Bhadrak Dist, Nuani estuary, Puri District and Bhudabalang estuary, Balasore, Orissa besides Kaveri estuary, Tamilnadu. Vigilance Awareness week was observed by the Centre from 25th of the month jointly with the Botanical Survey of India, Hyderabad.

 In this Issue

Sunderban Regional Centre, Canning

A local survey was conducted in Canning and its environs and Dabu on 22nd October and representative faunal elements collected for taxonomic studies.

Three marine fishes (new records to West Bengal from Sunderbans), viz., *Photopectoralis bindus* (Valenciennes, 1835); *Pentaprion longimanus* (Cantor, 1850); *Ariosoma* Sp. were identified. 6 species of fishes viz., *Dendrophysa*

russelli (Cuvier, 1829); *Anodontostoma thailandia* Wongratana, 1983; *Eleutheronema teradactylum* (Shaw, 1804); *Terapon jarbua* (Forsskal, 1775); *Secutor insidiator* (Bloch, 1787); *Nuchequula gerroides* (Bleeker, 1851)) and 3 species of crabs viz., *Matuta planipes*; *Charybdis affinis*; *Charybdis rostrata* were also identified and registered during the month.

New records to West Bengal from Sunderbans



Photopectoralis bindus (Valenciennes, 1835)



Pentaprion longimanus (Cantor, 1850)



Ariosoma species

 In this Issue

Desert Regional Centre, Jodhpur

Two field surveys were conducted in Peeshawas area of Jodhpur on 18th and Sitamata Wildlife Sanctuary, Rajasthan from 19th - 27th of October. 8 species of Lepidoptera, 9 species of Coleoptera and 3 species of Pisces from various environs of Rajasthan were identified during the month. Wildlife Week was celebrated with various programmes from 1st - 7th October. 54 participants of 'Dusera Dashak Pariyojana', BAAP (NGO), Phalodi, visited the museum and the scientists of the Centre provided

information on Biodiversity, Environmental Awareness and Wildlife Conservation on 7th and 11th October. 2 scientists of the Centre delivered lectures during the UGC Refresher's Course in Zoology conducted for the University and College lecturers at Jai Narain Vyas University, Jodhpur on 4th and 8th October. 22 participants of the refresher course visited the Centre. Besides, two lectures were also delivered in the Foresters' Refresher Course, organized by the Desert Forest Training Centre,



Sand dunes at Bikaner

Chinkara (*Gazella bennettii*)

Jodhpur on 19th October.

56 entries of identified fauna were made in the Faunal Database of the Centre. 184 entries pertaining to the books in the Centre's library

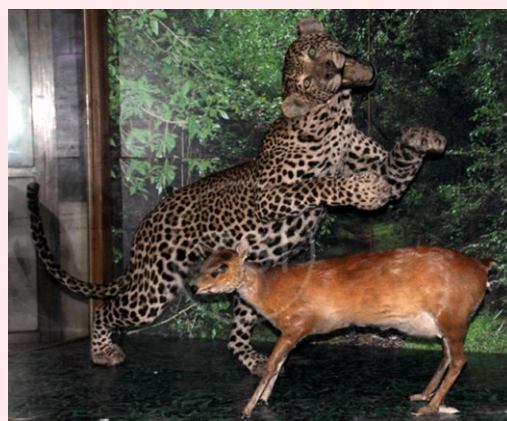
was made employing the software, *e-granthalaya*. 142 visitors paid their visits to the Museum.

 In this Issue


Western Regional Centre, Pune

Scientists of the Centre identified 171 examples of isopods, 45 examples of Acrididae and 26 examples of Cladocera. Six hundred records were computerized from literature for preparing an *Atlas of Odonata* of the Western Ghats. Fifty school and 13 postgraduate students from Yashwantrao Chavan Institute of Science, Satara, visited the museum of the Centre. Scientists of the Centre participated in

IUCN Western Ghats Freshwater Biodiversity Assessment evaluation workshop at Coimbatore, presented an overview on the faunal diversity of northern Western Ghats before the IUCN World Heritage committee at Pune and represented ZSI for a consultation meeting on ecologically sensitive zones of northern Western Ghats.

Leith's softshell Turtle, *Aspideretes leithii*

Leopard and barking deer specimens displayed in the WRC/ZSI Museum

 In this Issue

Estuarine Biology Regional Centre, Gopalpur-on-Sea

Twenty three species of fishes were identified from the collection of the Cauvery estuarine system, Tamil Nadu. Six species of crabs, 7 species of prawns and 3 aquatic insects were identified from the collection of the Brahmani-Baitarani Estuary, Orissa.

Status of 48 species of freshwater fishes, which were assessed by a scientist of the Centre, were incorporated in the IUCN Red List



Macrophthalmus (Mareotis) tomentosus

(www.iucnredlist.org). It included 2 endangered (EN), 14 vulnerable (VU), 8 near threatened (NT), 14 least concern (LC) and 10 data deficient (DD) species. *Psilorhynchus microphthalmus* Vishwanath and Manojkumar, 1995 and *Puntius manipurensis* Menon, Rema Devi and Vishwanath, 2000 were assessed as endangered species. One research paper has been accepted for publication.



Dineutus (Spinosodineutus) spinosus

 In this Issue

Western Ghat Regional Centre, Kozhikode (Calicut)

Five species of Pteromalidae (Hymenoptera) and 10 species of Odonata were identified from the collections of Southern Western Ghats. With regard to the taxonomic studies on the parasitic hymenoptera in the agro-ecosystems of Calicut, 4 species of the genera, *Psilanteris* Kieffer and *Paridris* Kieffer (Hymenoptera: Platygasteridae) were identified, of which one species turned out to be new to science. One of the scientists of the Centre, participated in the butterfly survey of Aralam, and Malabar Wildlife Sanctuaries, Kottiyur reserve Forest as well as the Thusaragiri, and Kakkavayal areas of southern Western Ghats along with a team of butterfly experts including Dr. Krushnamegh Kunte of Harvard University, U.S.A from 20-23rd October.

During the month, 5 scientific papers were submitted for publication in various journals.

Two advisory services were rendered and a

research paper was reviewed for an international journal and comments offered. Six lectures were delivered on topics such as Biogeography of India, Understanding biodiversity, Climate Change and biodiversity, Biodiversity of Kerala, and on Insects, to the students of Govt.U.P.School, Kottooli, Kozhikode district and the trainees of the Calicut Orphanage Teacher's Training Institute, Kolathara, Kozhikode on 19th and 26th October, respectively.

Wildlife week was celebrated on 5th October in collaboration with Zoo Outreach Organization, Coimbatore. During the occasion, a painting competition was held for U. P. and high school students on the theme 'Climate Change' and a drama was performed by the students of Azchavattom Govt. Higher Secondary school, Kozhikode based on the theme. A lecture on 'Climate change and Biodiversity' was also

delivered to the gathering by one of the scientists of the Centre.

During the month, Hindi Week celebrations also were held from 7th -13th October. Competitions on Hindi Copy writing, Hindi quiz, Hindi/ English Word translations etc.

were conducted for the officers/staff of the Centre. The officers/staff of the Centre celebrated Sarasvathi/ Durga Pooja on 18th October.

During the month, 1741 visitors paid their visits to the museum.



ISRO team on their visit to learn about the Leica M205 A microscope in use at WGRC/ZSI, Calicut



During the lecture classes delivered on Biodiversity conservation to the Teacher Trainees of the Calicut Orphanage, at WGRC



Students of Kottooli U. P School (Calicut) on their visit to WGRC



During the Wildlife Week Celebration 2010 at WGRC



During the Hindi Saptah Samaroh Celebration-2010 at WGRC



During the Sarasvathi/Durga Pooja Celebration at WGRC

ANIMAL OF THE MONTH**ASIAN / HIMALAYAN BLACK BEAR***Ursus thibetanus* Cuvier, 1823

[Contributed by: North Eastern Regional Centre, Zoological Survey of India, Shillong]



The Asian/Himalayan black bear is a medium sized bear found in India (Himalayan range), Afghanistan and Pakistan. It is also found in Southeast Asia, South China, Korean peninsula, part of Japan and the east coast of Russia. The species is adapted for arboreal life too.

It is omnivorous and feeds on termites, bees, honey, herbs etc. It can be very aggressive in human presence.

The main threat to its existence is rapid deforestation and subsequent habitat loss as well as poaching for its body parts. It shows a declining population trend. The species is listed in the IUCN Red list category: Vulnerable.

Further reading:

<http://www.iucnredlist.org/apps/redlist/details/22824/0>

ZSI IN NEWS



News from SRC, Chennai

New freshwater fishes found in Western Ghats

<http://www.hindu.com/2010/10/30/stories/2010103059770400.htm>

News from HARC/ZSI, Solan

3rd Asian Lepidoptera conservation symposium

<http://www.thehindu.com/todays-paper/tp-features/tp-metroplus/article862118.ece>

News from WGRC, Calicut (Kozhikode)

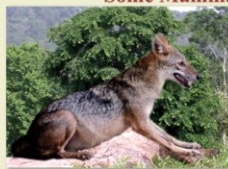
Wildlife Week 2010 Celebrations at WGRC/ZSI, Calicut

<http://www.doolnews.com/kozhikode-zsi-news.html>

In this Issue



PICTURE GALLERY

சில தமிழ்நாட்டு பாலூட்டிகள்
Some Mammals of Tamilnadu


Indian Wild Dog
Cuon alpinus (Pallas)
செத்தை



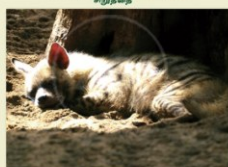
Jungle Cat
Felis chaus Guldenstaedt
காட்டு பூனை



Leopard
Panthera pardus fusca (Meyer)
பேரங்கு



Tiger
Panthera tigris (Linn.)
பேரன்



Striped Hyena
Hyaena hyaena (Linn.)
கழுநாய்



Common Otter
Lutra lutra Cuvier
பேரன்



Sloth Bear
Melursus ursinus (Shaw)
கரங்கு



Common Palm Civet
Paradoxurus h. hermaphroditus (Pallas)
கரங்கு

Southern Regional Centre
Zoological Survey of India

SRC, Chennai

In this Issue

PAINTINGS FROM ZSI HERITAGE ALBUM

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White-winged Wood Duck*Asarcornis scutulata* (Müller, 1842) - formerly, *Cairina scutulata* In this Issue