

## THE ICHTHYOFAUNA OF DHARMAPURI DISTRICT, TAMIL NADU

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### INTRODUCTION

Dharmapuri District, covering a total area of 9,615.89 sq. km. (Map 1) is situated on the extreme northwest part of Tamil Nadu between latitudes 11°54'N and 12°54'N and longitudes 77°25'E and 78°42'E. The district consists of scarcely wooded undulating plateau, dense jungles and river basins. The mean temperature is 37.8°C and the average rainfall is 680 mm. The two important rivers which flow through the district are the Chinnar and the Cauvery. The major reservoirs are Chinnar dam, Krishnagiri dam and Pambar dam.

The paper deals with the fish collections made by the Zoological Survey of India, Southern Regional Station, during Apr.-Mar. 1985-86 by Dr Koshy Mathew and party and during Sept.-Oct. 1996 by the second author. A total of 575 specimens belonging to 39 species have been identified, registered and incorporated in the Reserve Collections of SRS. The list includes 10 additional species (of the 22 species) identified from Krishnagiri Reservoir for Ms. Ponmozhi Gokulanathan, Lecturer, Bharati Woman's College, Madras. A total of 49 species are thus reported here. Under systematic account are included the first reference, material examined and distribution. Classification follows Menon, 1993 (in Press).

Earlier studies in this area include those of Jayaram et. al (1982), who listed 27 species from Hogenaikal, of which 8 species are not represented in the present collections.

### LIST OF SPECIES

(\*Reported for the first time from this District)

Order OSTEOGLOSSIFORMES

Family NOTOPTERIDAE

1 *Notopterus notopterus* (Pallas)

Order CYPRINIFORMES

Family . CYPRINIDAE

Subfamily CULTRINAE

2. *Salmostoma clupeoides* (Bloch)

## Subfamily RASBORINAE

- \* 3. *Amblypharyngodon microlepis* (Bleeker)
- 4. *Danio aequipinnatus* (McClelland)
- \* 5. *Esomus thermoicos* (Valenciennes)
- \* 6. *Rasbora daniconius* (Hamilton)

## Subfamily CYPRININAE

- 7. *Barbodes carnaticus* (Jerdon)
- 8. *Barbodes sarana subnasutus* (Valenciennes)
- \* 9. *Catla catla* (Hamilton)
- \* 10. *Cirrhinus mrigala* (Hamilton)
- 11. *Cirrhinus reba* (Hamilton)
- 12. *Hypselobarbus dubius* (Day)
- 13. *Labeo calbasu* (Hamilton)
- \* 14. *Labeo dero* (Hamilton)
- \* 15. *Labeo pangusia* (Hamilton)
- 16. *Labeo rohita* (Hamilton)
- \* 17. *Osteochilichthys brevidorsalis* (Day)
- \* 18. *Puntius amphibius* (Valenciennes)
- \* 19. *Puntius bimaculatus* (Bleeker)
- 20. *Puntius chola* (Hamilton)
- 21. *Puntius conchoni* (Hamilton)
- 22. *Puntius dorsalis* (Jerdon)
- 23. *Puntius filamentosus* (Valenciennes)
- \* 24. *Puntius mudumalaiensis* Menon and Rema Devi
- 25. *Puntius sophore* (Hamilton)
- 26. *Puntius ticto* (Hamilton)
- \* 27. *Puntius vittatus* Day
- \* 28. *Tor khudree* (Sykes)

## Subfamily GARRINAE

- \* 29.
- Garra mullya*
- (Sykes)

## Family COBITIDAE

- \* 30.
- Lepidocephalus thermalis*
- (Valenciennes)

## Family : BALITORIDAE

## Subfamily : NOEMACHEILINAE

- \* 31
- Noemacheilus denisoni denisoni*
- Day

## Order . SILURIFORMES

## Family : BAGRIDAE

- \* 32.
- Mystus bleekeri*
- (Day)

- 33.
- Mystus cavasius*
- (Hamilton)

- \* 34.
- Mystus vittatus*
- (Bloch)

## Family : SILURIDAE

- \* 35.
- Ompok bimaculatus*
- (Bloch)

- \* 36.
- Silurus wynaadensis*
- Day

- \* 37.
- Wallago attu*
- (Schneider)

## Order . CYPRINODONTIFORMES

## Family ORYZIIDAE

- \* 38.
- Oryzias melastigma*
- (McClelland)

## Family POECILIDAE

- \* 39.
- Gambusia affinis*
- (Baird and Girard)

## Order : PERCIFORMES

## Suborder PERCOIDEI

## Family AMBASSIDAE

- \* 40.
- Chanda nama*
- Hamilton

## Family CICHLIDAE

- \* 41
- Etroplus maculatus*
- (Bloch)

- \* 42.
- Oreochromis mossambica*
- (Peters)

Suborder GOBIOIDEI

Family GOBIIDAE

\* 43. *Glossogobius giuris* (Hamilton)

Suborder MUGILOIDEI

Family MUGILIDAE

44. *Rhinomugil corsula* (Hamilton)

Suborder CHANNOIDEI

Family : CHANNIDAE

45. *Channa marulius* (Hamilton)

\* 46. *Channa orientalis* Bloch and Schneider

\* 47. *Channa punctatus* (Bloch)

Order : MASTACEMBELIFORMES

Family MASTACEMBELIDAE

\* 48. *Macrogathus aral* (Bloch and Schneider)

49. *Mastacembelus armatus* (Lacepede)

### SYSTEMATIC ACCOUNT

Order OSTEOGLOSSIFORMES

Family NOTOPTERIDAE

#### 1 *Notopterus notopterus* (Pallas)

1769. *Gymnotus notopterus* Pallas, *Spicil. Zool.*, 7 : 40, pl. 6, fig. 2 (Type locality : Indian Ocean).

*Material* · 1 ex., 186.0 mm SL, Hogenaikal, 20.9.96, F.5106; 1 ex., 180.0 mm SL, Chinnar Dam, 29.9.96, F. 5231; 1 ex, 196.0 mm SL, Krishnagiri Reservoir, March '92.

*Distribution* Pakistan, India, Nepal, Bangladesh, Burma, Thailand, Malaya and Indonesia.

Order CYPRINIFORMES

Family CYPRINIDAE

Subfamily CULTRINAE

#### 2. *Salmostoma clupeioides* (Bloch)

1782. *Cyprinus clupeioides* Bloch, *Naturges ausland. Fische*, 12 : 49, pl. 408, fig. 2 (Type locality : Tranquebar).

*Material* · 21 exs., 20.0-33.0 mm SL, Vaniyar, near Harur Town, 24.9.96, F.5142; 3 exs., 105.0 mm SL, Chinnar dam, 29.9.96, F. 5232; 1 ex., 124.0 mm SL, Krishnagiri Reservoir, March, '92.

**Distribution** : India : Peninsular India, Gujarat, Maharashtra, Karnataka, Tamil Nadu and Madhya Pradesh (Narmadha, Godavary, Krishna and Cauvery).

### Subfamily RASBORINAE

#### 3. *Amblypharyngodon microlepis* (Bleeker)

1853. *Leuciscus microlepis* Bleeker, *Verh. batav. Genoot. Kunst. wet*, **25** : 141 (Type locality : Bengal).

**Material** : 1 ex., 48.0 mm SL, Palakode, 22.9.'96, F.5128; 1 ex., 40.0 mm SL, Pelarhalli, 22.9.96, F. 5130; 1 ex., 30.0 mm SL, Aulukanatham, 28.9.96.

**Distribution** : India : Bengal through Chota-Nagpur to Peninsular India, except the west face of the Western Ghats.

#### 4. *Danio aequipinnatus* (McClelland)

1839. *Perilampus aequipinnatus* McClelland, *Asiat. Res.*, 19 (2) : 393, pl. 60, fig. 1. (Type locality : Assam).

**Material** 4 exs., 48.0-58.0 mm SL, Thopur, 21.9.96, F.5120; 4 exs., 14.0-35.5 mm SL, Vaniyar near Harur Town, F. 5143.

**Remarks** D.3/10-11; A.3/13-15; L.1 40-41; predorsal 16-18. Though Jayaram (1991) distinguished *D. malabaricus* (Jerdon) from *D. aequipinnatus* (McCl.) by the greater number of branched rays in dorsal and anal and greater number of L.I. scales the present specimens could be only tentatively placed under *D. aequipinnatus*, owing to the overlapping of these characters.

**Distribution** Throughout India, Nepal, Bangladesh, Burma and Thailand.

#### 5. *Esomus thermoicos* (Valenciennes)

1842. *Nuria thermoicos* Valenciennes, *Hist. Nat. Poiss.*, 16 : 238, pl. 472. (Type locality : Hot springs at Kanniya, Sri Lanka).

**Material** : 1 ex., 74.0 mm SL, Hogenaikal, 20.9.96, F. 5107; 8 exs., 38.0-86.0 mm SL, Thopur, 21.9.96, F. 5122; 3 exs., 21.0-25.0 mm SL, Aulukanatham, 28.9.96; 52 exs., 23.0-58.0 mm SL Veppalapalli River, 3.10.96, F. 5239.

**Remarks** P.1/11-12; pd. 17-20; L.1.35 complete; the anterior rays of the pectoral are prolonged in the specimens from Veppalapalli River and in specimens from Thopur this feature is observed in smaller specimens; also the maxillary barbels extend to tip of pectoral in smaller specimens and with increase in length of fish the barbels extend only upto middle or anterior third of pectoral; in the specimen from Hogenaikal the scales above the anal are tuberculate.

**Distribution** Sri Lanka, Peninsular India.

### 6. *Rasbora daniconius* (Hamilton)

1822. *Cyprinus daniconius* Hamilton, *Fish. Ganges*, 327, pl. 15, fig. 89. (Type locality : Rivers of Southern Bengal).

*Material*: 7 exs., 44.0-45.0 mm SL, Thopur, 21.9.96, F.5123; 1 ex., 23.5 mm SL, Vaniyar, near Harur Town, 24.9.96; 4 exs., 19.0-44.0 mm SL, Veppalapalli River, F.5240; 1 ex., 20.0mm. SL, Anchetty near Dhalla, 14.4.85, F. 3383.

*Remarks* : Predorsal scales 14-16; post dorsal distance just falls before posterior border of eye; numerous, minute granulations on head were observed in some specimens from Thopur.

*Distribution* : Throughout India, Sri Lanka, Pakistan, Nepal, Bangladesh, Burma and Thailand.

### Subfamily : CYPRININAE

### 7. *Barbodes carnaticus* (Jerdon)

1849. *Barbus carnaticus* Jerdon, *Madras J. Lit. Sci.*, 15 : 311 (Type locality : Cauvery River).

*Material* : 1 ex., 126.0 mm SL, Hogenaikal, 20.9.'96, F. 5109.

*Distribution* : Peninsular India : Cauvery River System.

### 8. *Barbodes sarana subnasutus* (Valenciennes)

1842. *Barbus subnasutus* Valenciennes, *Hist. nat. Poiss.*, 16 : 154. (Type locality : Pondicherry).

*Material*: 1 ex., 188.0 mm SL, Hogenaikal, 20.9.'96, F. 5110; 1 ex., 44.0 mm SL, Vaniyar near Harur town, 24.9.96, F5144; 3 exs., 100.0-132.0 mm SL, Krishnagiri Reservoir, March, '92.

*Distribution* : India : Peninsular : Krishna River and South.

### 9. *Catla catla* (Hamilton)

1822. *Cyprinus catla* Hamilton, *Fish. Ganges* : 287, 318, pl. 13, fig. 81 (Type locality : Rivers & tanks of Bengal.)

*Material* : 1ex., 155.0 mm SL, Krishnagiri Reservoir, March, '92.

*Distribution* : Pakistan, India : Northern India, Bangladesh, Nepal, Burma. Introduced into the rivers of Peninsular India and Sri Lanka.

### 10. *Cirrhinus mrigala* (Hamilton)

1822. *Cyprinus mrigala* Hamilton, *Fish. Ganges.* : 279, 389, pl. 6, fig. 79 (Type locality : Ponds and freshwater rivers of the Gangetic Provinces.)

**Material** : 1 ex., 138.0 mm SL, Krishnagiri Reservoir, Jan., '94.

**Distribution** : Pakistan, India : Northern India. Nepal, Bangladesh. Introduced into Peninsular India.

### 11 *Cirrhinus reba* (Hamilton)

1822. *Cyprinus reba* Hamilton, *Fish. Ganges.* : 280, 386. (Type locality : Rivers and Ponds of Bengal and Bihar).

**Material** : 1 ex., 110.0 mm SL, Hogenakal, 20.9.96, F. 5113; 1 ex., 140.0 mm SL, Krishnagiri Reservoir, March, '92.

**Distribution** : Pakistan, Throughout India, Nepal, Bangladesh, Burma.

### 12. *Hypselobarbus dubius* (Day)

1867. *Puntius (Barbodes) dubius* Day, *Proc. Zool. Soc. Lond.*, : 291. (Type locality : Bhavani River at the base of Nilgiri Hills).

**Material** 1 ex., 128.0 mm SL, Hogenakal, 20.9.'96, F.5111

**Distribution** : India Tamil Nadu Bhavani, Cauvery and Manimuthar.

### 13. *Labeo calbasu* (Hamilton)

1822. *Cyprinus calbasu* Hamilton, *Fish Ganges.* : 297, 389, pl. 2, fig. 33 (Type locality : Bengal).

**Material** : 1 ex., 130.0 mm SL, Krishnagiri Reservoir, Jan. '94.

**Distribution** : Throughout India, Pakistan, Nepal, Bangladesh, Burma, Thailand. Also S.W. China.

### 14. *Labeo dero* (Hamilton)

1822. *Cyprinus dero* Hamilton, *Fish. Ganges* : 277, 331, 585, pl. 22, fig. 78. (Type locality : River Brahmaputra).

**Material** : 1 ex., 125.0 mm SL. Hogenakal, 20.9.96, F.5114.

**Remarks** : D.3/10; L.1.42; L.tr.  $9\frac{1}{2} / 6\frac{1}{2}$ ; dorsal fin slightly higher than body depth; snout with small lateral lobes and with tubercles; lower lip fringed; eye 4 in HL; HL 4.3 in SL. Now found commonly in some reservoirs and river systems of Tamil Nadu.

*Distribution*: India :All along the Himalaya including Kashmir, Chota-Nagpur, Sathpura-Vindhya ranges, Deccan and south as far as the Tambraparni. Pakistan, Nepal, Bangladesh.

### 15. *Labeo pangusia* (Hamilton)

1822. *Cyprinus pangusia* Hamilton, *Fish. Ganges*, : 285, 386 (Type locality : River Kosi).

*Material* 1 ex., 125.0 mm SL, Krishnagiri Reservoir, Jan., '94.

*Distribution* India All along the Himalaya including Kashmir as also Chota-Nagpur, Vindhya-Satpura ranges, Deccan and South as far as the Tambraparni as introduced species. Pakistan, Nepal, Bangladesh.

### 16. *Labeo rohita* (Hamilton)

1822. *Cyprinus rohita* Hamilton, *Fish. Ganges*, : 301, 388, pl. 36, fig. 85. (Type locality : Gangetic Provinces)

*Material* 2 exs., 145.0 & 182.0 mm SL, Krishnagiri Reservoir, March, '92.

*Distribution*: India :Northern India. Pakistan, Nepal, Bangladesh, Burma. Introduced into Peninsular India and Sri Lanka.

### 17. *Osteochilichthys brevidorsalis* (Day)

1873. *Semiplotus brevidorsalis* Day, *Proc. Zool. Soc. Lond.* 239 (Type locality : Rivers below Neilgherry Hills).

*Material* 1 ex., 142.0 mm SL, Hogenaikal, 20.9.'96, F. 5108.

*Distribution* India :Rivers below Nilgiri Hills in South India.

### 18. *Puntius amphibius* (Valenciennes)

1842. *Capoeta amphibia* Valenciennes (in C & V), 16 : 282, pl. 478 (Type locality : Bombay)

*Material* 1 ex., 27.0 mm SL, Veppalapalli River, F. 5244.

*Distribution* India Peninsular India, Central India, Orissa. Sri Lanka.

### 19. *Puntius bimaculatus* (Bleeker)

1864. *Gnathopogon bimaculatus* Bleeker, *Verh. Nat. Holl. Maatsch. Haarlem*, 2 (20) : 17, pl. 4, fig. 1 (Type locality : Ceylon).

*Material* 4 exs., 47.0-60.0 mm SL, Thopur, 21.9.96, F.5124; 2 exs., 16.5 & 17.0 mm SL, Aulukanatham, 28.9.96; 10 exs., 18.0-20.0 mm SL, Veppalapalli River, 3.10.'96, F. 5242; 3 exs., 20.0 mm SL, Anchetty Road to Dhalla, 14.4.'85, F. 3382.

*Distribution* India :Peninsular India. Sri Lanka.



### 20. *Puntius chola* (Hamilton)

1822. *Cyprinus chola* Hamilton, *Fish. Ganges.* : 312, 389. (Type locality : North eastern parts of Bengal).

**Material** : 1 ex., 30.0 mm SL, Vaniyar near Harur town, 24.9.96, F. 5145.

**Distribution** Throughout India, Pakistan, Nepal, Bangladesh, Burma and Sri Lanka.

### 21 *Puntius conchoni* (Hamilton)

1822. *Cyprinus conchoni* Hamilton, *Fish Ganges.* : 317, 389 (Type locality : Ponds of northeast Bengal).

**Material**: 3 exs. 59.0-60.0 mm SL, Krishnagiri dam, 2.10.96, F. 5102; 1 ex., 49.0 mm SL, Vaniyar near Harur Town, 24.9.96, F. 5148.

**Distribution** India Ganga, Brahmaputra, Mahanadi and Cauvery river systems. Afghanistan, Pakistan, Nepal, Bangladesh.

### 22. *Puntius dorsalis* (Jerdon)

1849. *Systemus dorsalis* Jerdon, *Madras J. Lit. Sci.*, 15 : 314 (Type locality : Tanks and rivers in neighbourhood of Madras).

**Material** : 11 exs., 55.0-99.0 mm SL, Thopur 21.9.96, F. 5121, 5 exs., 29.0-33.0 mm SL, Vaniyar near Harur Town, 24.9.96, F. 5146; 1 ex., 90.0 mm SL, Krishnagiri Reservoir, Jan., '94.

**Distribution** : India : Peninsular India . Cauvery, Krishna, Godavary, Mahanadi, Narmada river systems. Sri Lanka.

### 23. *Puntius filamentosus* (Valenciennes)

1844. *Leuciscus filamentosus* Valenciennes, *Hist. Nat. Poiss.*, 17 : 95, pl. 492 (Type locality : Alleppy).

**Material** : 1 ex., 87.0 mm SL, Krishnagiri Reservoir, March, '92.

**Distribution** Peninsular India : Goa, Karnataka, Kerala, Tamil Nadu, Andhra Pradesh. Sri Lanka.

### 24. *Puntius mudumalaiensis* Menon and Rema Devi

1992. *Puntius mudumalaiensis* Menon and Rema Devi, *J. Bombay nat. Hist. Soc.*, 89 (2) : 229-231. (Type locality : Kakkanhalla Road, Mudumalai, Tamil Nadu).

**Material** : 1 ex., 22.5 mm SL, Aulukanatham, 28.9.96, F.5159.

**Remarks** The single specimen has been tentatively identified as *P. mudumalaiensis*, characterized by a proportionately large head, deep body, a pair of minute maxillary barbel,

a weak dorsal spine, an incomplete lateral line (with 26 scale rows) and two blotches, one on dorsal base and another on caudal peduncle. This is the first report of the species from the Cauvery system after its description in 1992.

*Distribution* :India Tamil Nadu Western Ghats Cauvery System.

### 25. *Puntius sophore* (Hamilton)

1822. *Cyprinus sophore* Hamilton, *Fish. Ganges* : 310, 389, pl. 19, fig. 86 (Type locality : Ponds and rivers in the Gangetic provinces).

*Material* :3 exs., 26.0-31.0 mm SL, Vaniyar near Harur Town, 24.9.96, F.5147; 13 exs., 35.0-61.0 mm SL, Veppalapalli River, 3.10.96, F. 5241, 2 exs., 43.0-63.0 mm SL, Keesankuppam tank, 9.4.85, F.5252.

*Distribution* Throughout India, Pakistan, Bangladesh, Burma, Yunnan.

### 26. *Puntius ticto* (Hamilton)

1822. *Cyprinus ticto* Hamilton, *Fish. Ganges* : 314, 398, pl. 8, fig. 87. (Type locality : South eastern parts of Bengal).

*Material* 1 ex., 37.0 mm SL, Pelar Halli, 22.9.'96, F.5131, 1 ex., 28.0 mm SL, Thalli, 27.9.'96, F. 5157; 1 ex., 16.0 mm SL, Aulukanatham, 28.9.'96; 2 exs., 20.0 & 28.0 mm SL, Uthangarai tank, 1 10.'96; 25 exs., 15.0-40.0 mm SL, Veppalapalli River, 3.10.'96, F.5243.

*Distribution* : Throughout India, Pakistan, Bangladesh, Burma, Thailand & Sri Lanka.

### 27. *Puntius vittatus* Day

1865. *Puntius vittatus* Day, *Proc. Zool. Soc. Lond.*: 303 (Type locality : Madras).

*Material* 2 exs., 14.0 and 21.5 mm SL, Veppalapalli River, 3.10.'96, F. 5245.

*Distribution* India :Peninsular India Goa, Cutch, Karnataka, Kerala, Tamil Nadu. Sri Lanka.

### 28. *Tor khudree* (Sykes)

1838. *Barbus khudree* Sykes, *Proc. Zool. Soc. Lond.* : 159. (Type locality : Mulla Mutha River near Poona).

*Material* 1ex., 165.0 mm SL, Hogenaikal, 20.9.96, F. 5112.

*Remarks* : D.3/9; L.1.26; L.tr.4/2<sup>1</sup>/<sub>2</sub>; predorsal 10; P.1/16; V 1/8; 2 pairs of well developed barbels; lips produced; HL equal to BD; BD 3.2 in SL; no tubercles on snout; gill rakers 11+4, the base thickened with knob like projections; dorsal and caudal edged black, fin bases yellow.

*Distribution* Peninsular India Deccan and the entire Peninsular. Sri Lanka.

## Subfamily : GARRINAE

29. *Garra mullya* (Sykes)

1841. *Chondrostoma mullya* Sykes, *Trans. Zool. Soc. Lond.*, 2 : 359, Pl. 62, fig. 3 (Type locality : Bheema river at Daunde, near Poona).

**Material** : 1 ex., 64.0 mm SL, Thopur, 21.9.96, F. 5125; 1 ex., 96.0 mm SL, Tumbalahalli Dam, 23.9.96, F.5140; 1 ex., 32.0 mm SL, Vaniyar near Harur town, 24.9.96, F.5149; 2 exs., 23.0 & 47.0 mm SL, Bommidi Gajakulam, 12.3.86, F. 3787; 1 ex., 112.0 mm SL, Krishnagiri Reservoir, March, '92.

**Distribution** Throughout Peninsular India.

## Family : COBITIDAE

30. *Lepidocephalus thermalis* (Valenciennes)

1846. *Cobitis thermalis* Valenciennes, *Hist. Nat. Poiss.*, 18 : 78. (Type locality : Hot springs of Kanniya, E.P., Sri Lanka).

**Material** : 16 exs., 25.0-42.0 mm SL, Muduganappalli, 26.9.96, F.5105; 4 exs., 50.0-51.0 mm SL, Thopur, 21.9.96, F.5126; 1 ex., 17.0 mm SL, Vaniyar near Harur Town, 24.9.96; 22 exs., 24.0-38.0 mm SL, Thenkenikottai, 26.9.96, F. 5155; 1 ex., 38.0 mm SL, Thalli, 27.9.96, F. 5158; 14 exs., 25.0-43.0 mm SL, Uthangarai, 1.10.96; 70 exs., 22.0-47.0 mm SL, Veppalapalli River, 3.10.96, F.5238.

**Distribution** : Peninsular India, Sri Lanka.

## Family : BALITORIDAE

## Subfamily NOEMACHEILINAE

31. *Noemacheilus denisoni denisoni* (Day)

1867. *Nemachilus denisoni* Day, *Proc. Zool. Soc. Lond.*, 287. (Type locality : Bhawany river, base of Nilgiris).

**Material** 23 exs., 23.0-47.0 mm SL, Bommidi, Gajakulam, 12.3.'86, F. 3738.

**Distribution** : Peninsular India Rajasthan, Madhya Pradesh, Maharashtra, Karnataka, Kerala, Tamil Nadu.

## Order : SILURIFORMES

## Family BAGRIDAE

32. *Mystus bleekeri* (Day)

1846. *Bagrus keletius* (nec Valenciennes) Bleeker, *Nat. Gen. Arch. Ned. Ind.*, 3(2) : 135 (Type locality : Bengal).

*Material* 1 ex., 100.0 mm SL, Krishnagiri Dam, 2.10.96, F.5103; 2 exs., 41.0 & 45.0 mm SL, Vaniyar near Harur Town, 24.9.96. F.5150.

*Distribution* Throughout India, Pakistan, Nepal, Bangladesh & Burma.

### 33. *Mystus cavasius* (Hamilton)

1822. *Pimelodus cavasius* Hamilton, *Fish. Ganges.* : 203, 379, pl. 11, fig. 67 (Type locality : Gangetic Provinces).

*Material* 1 ex., 142.0 mm SL, Hogenaikal, 20.9.96, F.5115; 1 ex., 120.0 mm SL, Krishnagiri Reservoir, March, '92.

*Distribution* India, Pakistan, Nepal, Bangladesh, Burma, Malaya, Thailand, Java, Borneo, Sumatra.

### 34. *Mystus vittatus* (Bloch)

1797. *Silurus vittatus* Bloch, *Ichth. Hist. Nat.*, 11 : 40, pl.371, fig. 2. (Type locality : Tranquebar, S. India).

*Material* 1 ex., 92.0 mm SL, Chinnar dam, 29.9.96, F.5233; 2 exs., 100.0 & 110.0 mm SL, Krishnagiri Reservoir, March, '92.

*Distribution* : Throughout India, Pakistan, Nepal, Bangladesh, Sri Lanka, Burma and Thailand.

## Family : SILURIDAE

### 35. *Ompok bimaculatus* (Bloch)

1797. *Silurus bimaculatus* Bloch, *Ichth. Hist. Nat.*, 11 : 17, pl. 364 (Type locality : Malabar).

*Material* 1 ex., 215.0 mm SL, Hogenaikal, 20.9.96, F.5116; 1 ex., 165.0 mm SL, Krishnagiri Reservoir, March, '92.

*Distribution* Throughout India, Pakistan, Nepal, Bangladesh, Sri Lanka, Burma, Thailand, Java, Sumatra, Borneo and China.

### 36. *Silurus wynaadensis* Day

1868. *Silurus punctatus* Day, *Proc. Zool. Soc. Lond.* : 155 (Type locality : Wynaad, Kerala).

*Material* 1 ex., 240.0 mm SL, Krishnagiri Reservoir, March, '92.

*Distribution* Western Ghats Kerala Wynaad (Cauvery drainage); Tamil Nadu : Cauvery drainage; Karnataka; Jagger Valley (Thungabhadra drainage).

### 37. *Wallago attu* (Schneider)

1801. *Silurus attu* Schneider, *Syst. Ichth.* 378, pl. 75. (Type locality : Malabar).

*Material* : 1 ex., 200.0 mm SL, Hogenaikal, 20.9.'96, F. 5117

*Distribution* : India, Sri Lanka, Afghanistan, Pakistan, Bangladesh, Burma, Thailand and Indonesia.

Order : CYPRINODONTIFORMES

Family . ORYZIIDAE

### 38. *Oryzias melastigma* (McClelland)

1838. *Aplocheilus melastigmus* McClelland, *Asiat. Res.*, 19 (2) : 301, 427, pl. 42, fig. 3, pl. 35, fig. 4 (Type locality : Calcutta).

*Material* : 1 ex., 21.0 mm SL, Uthangarai, 1.10.96, F.5236.

*Distribution* : Throughout India, Sri Lanka, Pakistan, Bangladesh, Burma, Malay Peninsula, Thailand.

Family : POECILIDAE

### 39. *Gambusia affinis* (Baird and Girard)

1853. *Heterandria affinis* Baird and Girard, *Proc. Acad. nat. Sci. Philad.*, 6 : 390 (Type locality : San Antonio river Drainage, Texas).

*Material* : 2 exs., 23.5 & 24.0 mm SL, Aulukanatham, 28.9.96, F. 5229; 42 exs., 15.0-34.0 mm SL, Veppalapalli River, 3.10.96, F. 5246; 21 exs., 15.0-23.0 mm SL, Anchetty Road to Dhalla, 14.4.85, F. 3381

*Distribution* : The Netherlands, Antilles, the Venezuelan Is., Trinidad and British Guiana; introduced into India.

Order PERCIFORMES

Suborder PERCOIDEI.

Family AMBASSIDAE

### 40. *Chanda nama* Hamilton

1822. *Chanda nama* Hamilton, *Fish Ganges.* : 109, 371, pl. 39, fig. 37. (Type locality : N.E. Bengal)

*Material* 1 ex., 40.0 mm SL, Palakode, 22.9.96 F.5129; 1 ex., 33.0 mm SL, Pelarhalli, 22.9.96, F.5132; 1 ex., 33.0 mm SL, Vaniyar near Harur Town, 24.9.96, F. 5151; 1 ex., 74.0 mm SL, Krishnagiri Reservoir, Jan., '94.

*Distribution* Throughout India, Pakistan, Bangladesh, Nepal, Burma.

### Family CICHLIDAE

#### 41 *Etroplus maculatus* (Bloch)

1785. *Chaetodon maculatus* Bloch, *Syst. Ichth.* : 427, fig. 2 (Type locality : not given).

*Material* 7 exs., 55.0-65.0 mm SL, Krishnagiri Dam, 2.10.96, F.5237; 1 ex., 36.0 mm SL, Veppalapalli River, 3.10.96, F.5247.

*Distribution* Peninsular India, Sri Lanka.

#### 42. *Oreochromis mossambica* (Peters)

1852. *Chromis (Tilapia) mossambicus* Peters, *Montab. Akad. Wiss.*, Berlin : 681 (Type locality : Mozambique).

*Material* 1 ex., 65.0 mm SL, Hogenaikal, 20.9.'96, F.5118; 1 ex., 41.0 mm SL, Thopur, 21.9.'96, F. 5127; 6 exs., 51.0-70.0 mm SL, Nagondapalli, 25.9.'96, F. 5152; 55 exs., 25.0-102.0 mm SL, Thalli, 27.9.'96, F. 5156; 1 ex., 62.0 mm SL, Chinnar Dam, 29.9.'96, F.5235; 4 exs., 26.0-31.0 mm SL, Uthangarai, 1.10.'96; 10 exs., 13.0-40.0 mm SL, Veppalapalli River, 3.10.'96, F.5248; 1 ex., 135.0 mm SL, Krishnagiri Reservoir, March, '92.

*Distribution* : East Africa; an introduced species in India, Pakistan and Sri Lanka.

### Suborder GOBIOIDEI

### Family GOBIIDAE

#### 43. *Glossogobius giuris* (Hamilton)

1822. *Gobius giuris* Hamilton, *Fish. Ganges* : 51, 366, pl. 33, fig. 15. (Type locality : Gangetic Provinces).

*Material* : 1 ex., 70.0mmSL, Tumbalahalli Dam, 23.9.'96, F.5141, 2 exs., 130.0 & 131.0mm SL, Chinnar Dam, 29.9.'96, F.5234; 1ex., 46.0mm SL, Uthangarai, 1.10.'96; 2 exs., 24.0 & 27.5mm SL, Veppalapalli River, 3.10.'96, F. 5249; 1ex., 145.0mm SL, Krishnagiri Reservoir, March'92.

*Distribution* : Indo-West Pacific.

## Suborder : MUGILOIDEI

## Family : MUGILIDAE

44. *Rhinomugil corsula* (Hamilton)

1822. *Mugil corsula* Hamilton, *Fish. Ganges* : 221, 381, pl. 9, fig. 97 (Type locality : Gangetic Provinces)

**Material** : 2 exs., 145.0 & 160.0 mm SL, Krishnagiri Reservoir, March, '92.

**Distribution** : India, Bangladesh, Nepal and Burma.

## Suborder CHANNOIDEI

## Family CHANNIDAE

45. *Channa marulius* (Hamilton)

1822. *Ophiocephalus marulius* Hamilton, *Fish. Ganges* : 65, 367, pl. 17, fig. 9. (Type locality : river Ganges).

**Material** : 1 ex., 37.5 cm SL, Chinnar Dam, 29.9.96, F.5101

**Distribution** : India, Pakistan, Sri Lanka, Bangladesh, Nepal, Burma, Thailand, Sumatra, Borneo and China.

46. *Channa orientalis* Bloch and Schneider

1801. *Channa orientalis* Bloch and Schneider, *Syst. Ichth.* 496, pl. 90, fig. 2. (Type locality : India).

**Material** : 10 exs., 18.5-34.0 mm SL, Muduganapalli, 26.9.'96, F.5153; 17 exs., 23.0-43.0 mm SL, Thenkenikottai, 26.9.'96, F.5154; 1 ex., 43.0 mm SL, Aulukanatham, 28.9.'96, F.5230; 1 ex., 29.0 mm SL, Veppalapalli River, 3.10.96, F.5250.

**Distribution** : Afghanistan, Pakistan, India, Sri Lanka, Nepal, Bangladesh, Burma and Yunnan.

47. *Channa punctatus* (Bloch)

1793. *Ophiocephalus punctatus* Bloch, *Naturges. Ausland. Fische*, 7 : 139 (Type locality : Coromandal Coast).

**Material** : 1 ex., 135.0 mm SL, Krishnagiri Reservoir, March '92.

**Distribution** : Afghanistan, Pakistan, India, Nepal, Sri Lanka, Bangladesh, Burma and Yunnan.

## Order MASTACEMBELIFORMES

## Family MASTACEMBELIDAE

48. *Macroglyphus aral* (Bloch and Schneider)

1801. *Rhynchobdella aral* Bloch and Schneider, *Syst. Ichth.*, 478, pl. 89. (Type locality : Tranquebar, Tamil Nadu).

*Material* : 1 ex., 245.0 mm SL, Krishnagiri Reservoir, March, '92.

*Distribution* Pakistan, India, Sri Lanka, Bangladesh, Nepal and Burma.

#### 49. *Mastacembelus armatus* (Lacepede)

1800. *Macrognaathus armatus* Lacepede, *Hist. Nat. Poiss.*, 2 : 286. (Type locality : not known).

*Material* 1 ex., 250.0 mm SL, Chinnar Dam, 29.9.96, F.5104; 1 ex., 200.0 mm SL, Hogenaikal, 20.9.'96, F. 5119; 1ex., 54.0 mm SL, Krishnagiri Dam, 2.10.'96, F.5251

*Distribution* : Pakistan, India, Sri Lanka, Nepal, Burma, Thailand, Malaya to China.

### DISCUSSION

From the present study and from earlier reports (Jayaram et al, 1982), so far 57 species are known to occur in Dharmapuri District, Jayaram (op.cit.) listed 142 species from the Cauvery system of which 27 species were collected from Hogenaikal in Dharmapuri District. During the present survey 8 species listed by him could not be collected. Of these *Osteobrama cotio cotio* (Ham.) and *Labeo boggut* (Sykes) were reported by Jayaram (op.cit) only from Hogenaikal for the whole of the Cauvery sytem surveyed from its origin to the river mouth. The other species not collected during the recent surveys are *Salmostoma acinaces* (Val.), *Salmostoma untrahi* (Day), *Barilius bendelisis bendelisis* (Ham.), *Aorichthys aor* (Ham.), *Silonia childreni* Sykes and *Pangasius pangasius*(Ham). On the other hand, of the 14 species collected from Hogenaikal, 7 species viz. *Esomus thermoicos* (Val.), *Osteochilichthys brevidorsalis* (Day), *Tor khudree* (Sykes), *Labeo dero* (Ham.), *Ompok bimaçulatus* (Bloch), *Wallago attu* (Schneider) and *Oreochromis mossamibica* (Peters), are new reports from this area. The richest fish diversity is observed in Hogenaikal among all the collection sites surveyed, i.e., a total of 34 species are knqwn from this area alone. It is unfortunate that *O. mossambica* has been introduced here also. It remains to be seen how much of our fish diversity will be spared for the future by this exotic cichlid which is known for its hardiness and high reproductive potential supplemented by parental care and a wide food spectrum.

The species reported for the first time from the Cauvery system are *Labeo dero* (Ham.), *L. pangusia*(Ham.), *Puntius bimaçulatus*(Blkr.) *P. mudumalaiensis* Menon & Rema Devi and *Ompok bimaçulatus*(Bloch). Also *Silurus wynaadensis* Day is reported here for the first time from Tamil Nadu. *L. dero* (Ham.) and *L. pangusia* (Ham.) are new records to South India.

### SUMMARY

From a study of the fish fauna collected from Dharmapuri District, and from earlier reports, so far 57 species are known from this part of Tamil Nadu. Of these 29 species are first



reports from this area, including 5 new additions to the Cauvery system of which three are new records from Tamil Nadu and two from South India.

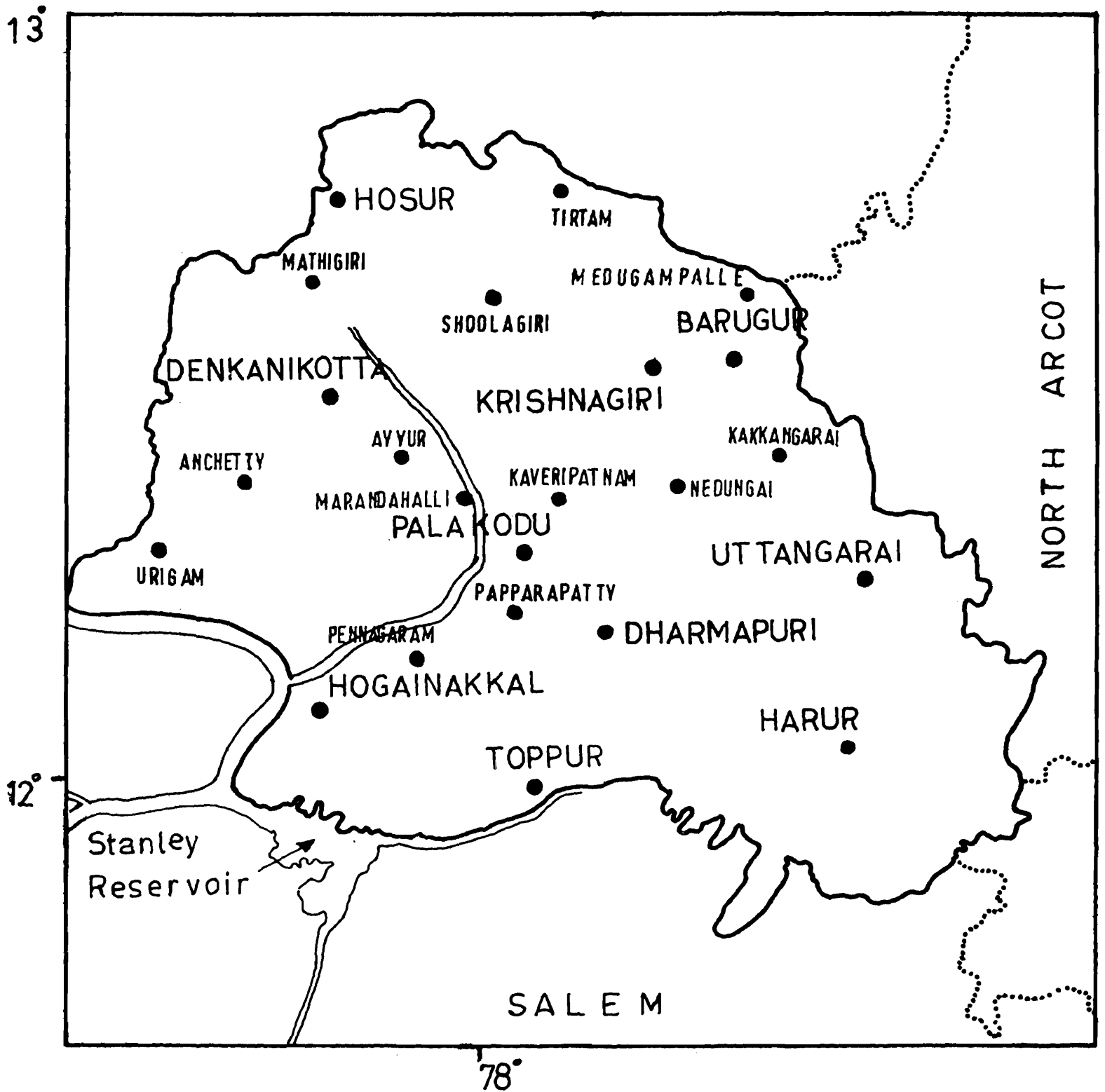
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# DHARMAPURI DISTRICT



Map-1