

ON A COLLECTION OF FISH FROM MIDDLE AND SOUTH ANDAMAN
GROUP OF ISLANDS

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INTRODUCTION

This paper is based on the fish fauna collected by one of us (S. K.) from South and Middle Andaman group of Islands during October, 1991 in pursuance of the approved annual programme of work. It contains information about 86 species belonging to 65 genera and 44 families. While identifying the specimens most of the relevant literature pertaining to the area (Day, 1878; Weber and de Beaufort, 1913-1936; de Beaufort, 1940; Herre, 1941; de Beaufort and Chapman, 1951; Koumans, 1953; de Beaufort and Briggs, 1962; Fischer and Whitehead, 1974; Talwar and Kacker, 1984; Whitehead, 1985; Carpenter, 1988; Whitehead *et al.*, 1988; Russell, 1990; Talwar, 1990; Kamla Devi, 1991; Krishnan and Mishra, in press; Mishra and Krishnan, in press) have been consulted.

Two new records to Indian waters *viz.* *Apogonichthys perdix* Bleeker and *Callionymus enneactis* Bleeker and eight new records to Andaman waters *viz.* *Sardinella gibbosa* (Bleeker), *Saurida nebulosa* Valenciennes, *Carangoides talamparoides* Bleeker, *Gymnocranius griseus* (Schlegel), *Nemipterus randalli* Russell, *Chrysiptera unimaculata* (Cuvier), *Scarus blochii* Valenciennes and *Engyprosopon grandisquama* (Temminck and Schlegel) are included in the paper. Systematic details and variations in meristic characters in addition to geographical distribution are presented. Extension of range of occurrence for one species reported.

Arrangement of families is according to Smith and Heemstra (1986) while genera and species in the family, in alphabetical order. Length of the samples studied is expressed as standard length (SL) unless and otherwise specifically mentioned as TL (total length) or FL (fork length).

All samples have been deposited with Marine Biological Station, Zoological Survey of India, Madras.

SYSTEMATIC LIST

Class : OSTEICHTHYES

Order : ANGUILLIFORMES

Family : CONGRIDAE

Genus : **Ariosoma** Swainson, 1838.

1. *Ariosoma anago* (Temminck and Schlegel, 1846).

Order : CLUPEIFORMES

Family : CLUPEIDAE

Genus : **Amblygaster** Bleeker, 1849.

2. *Amblygaster sirm* (Walbaum, 1762).

Genus : **Anodontosoma** Bleeker, 1849.

3. *Anodontosoma chacunda* (Hamilton-Buchanan, 1822).

Genus : **Herklotsichthys** Whitley, 1951.

4. *Herklotsichthys quadrimaculatus* (Ruppell, 1837).

Genus : **Sardinella** Valenciennes, 1847.

5. *Sardinella albella* (Valenciennes, 1847).
6. *Sardinella gibbosa* (Bleeker, 1849).

Family : ENGRAULIDIDAE

Genus : **Stolephorus** Lacepede, 1803.

7. *Stolephorus commersonii* Lacepede, 1803.
8. *Stolephorus waitei* Jordan and Seale, 1926.

Genus : **Thryssa** Cuvier, 1829.

9. *Thryssa baelama* (Forsskal, 1775).
10. *Thryssa encrasicholoides* (Bleeker, 1852).

Order : AULOPIIFORMES

Family : SYNODIDAE

Genus : **Saurida** Valenciennes, 1849.

11. *Saurida micropectoralis* Shindo and Yamada,

12. *Saurida nebulosa* Valenciennes, 1849.

13. *Saurida tumbil* (Bloch, 1795).

Order : ATHERINIFORMES

Family : ATHERINIDAE

Genus : *Atherinomorus* Fowler, 1903.

14. *Atherinomorus lacunosus* (Forster, 1801).

Order : SYNGNATHIFORMES

Family : FISTULARIDAE

Genus : *Fistularia* Linnaeus, 1758.

15. *Fistularia commersonii* Ruppell, 1838.

16. *Fistularia petimba* Lacepede, 1803.

Family : CENTRISCIDAE

Genus : *Centriscus* Linnaeus, 1758.

17. *Centriscus scutatus* Linnaeus, 1753.

Order : SCORPAENIFORMES

Family : PLATYCEPHALIDAE

Genus : *Rogadius* Jordan and Richardson, 1908.

18. *Rogadius pristiger* (Cuvier, 1829).

Order : PERCIFORMES

Family : AMBASSIDAE

Genus : *Ambassis* Cuvier, 1828.

19. *Ambassis urotaenia* Bleeker, 1852.

Family : SERRANIDAE

Genus : *Epinephelus* Bloch, 1793.

20. *Epinephelus caeruleopunctatus* (Bloch, 1790).

21. *Epinephelus quoyanus* (Valenciennes, 1830).

Family : TERAPONIDAE

Genus : *Terapon* Cuvier, 1816.

22. *Terapon jarbua* (Forsskal, 1775).

Family : **PRIACANTHIDAE**

Genus : **Priacanthus** Oken, 1817.

23. *Priacanthus blochii* Bleeker 1853.

Family : **APOGONIDAE**

Genus : **Apogon** Lacepede, 1802.

24. *Apogon (Nectamia) novemfasciatus* (Cuvier, 1828).

Genus : **Apogonichthys** Bleeker, 1854.

25. *Apogonichthys perdix* Bleeker, 1854.

Genus : **Fowleria** Jordan and Evermann, 1903.

26. *Fowleria aurita* (Valenciennes, 1831).

Genus : **Sphaeramia** Fowler and Bean, 1930.

27. *Sphaeramia orbicularis* (Kuhl and van Hasselt, 1828).

Family : **HAEMULIDAE**

Genus : **Plectorhinchus** Lacepede, 1802.

28. *Plectorhinchus orientalis* (Bloch, 1793).

Genus : **Pomadasys** Lacepede, 1802.

29. *Pomadasys argyreus* (Valenciennes, 1833).

Family : **LUTJANIDAE**

Genus : **Lutjanus** Bloch, 1790.

30. *Lutjanus biguttatus* (Valenciennes, 1830).

31. *Lutjanus bohar* (Forsskal, 1775).

32. *Lutjanus decussatus* (Cuvier, 1828).

33. *Lutjanus quinquelineatus* (Bloch, 1790).

34. *Lutjanus russelli* (Bleeker, 1849).

Family : **CAESIONIDAE**

Genus : **Caesio** Lacepede, 1801.

35. *Caesio caerulaureus* Lacepede, 1801.

Family : **LETHRINIDAE**

Genus : **Gymnocranius** Klunzinger, 1870.

36. *Gymnocranius griseus* (Schlegel, 1844).

Genus : **Lethrinus** Cuvier, 1829.

37. *Lethrinus mahsena* (Forsskal, 1775).

Family : NEMIPTERIDAE

Genus : **Nemipterus** Swainson, 1839.

38. *Nemipterus randalli* Russell, 1986.

Genus : **Scolopsis** Cuvier, 1816.

39. *Scolopsis bilineatus* (Bloch, 1793).

40. *Scolopsis ciliatus* (1802).

Family : SCATOPHAGIDAE

Genus : **Scatophagus** Cuvier, 1831.

41. *Scatophagus argus* (Linnaeus, 1766).

Family : GERREIDAE

Genus : **Gerres** Quoy and Gaimard, 1824.

42. *Gerres filamentosus* Cuvier, 1829.

Family : MULLIDAE

Genus : **Upeneus** Cuvier, 1829.

43. *Upeneus bensasi* (Schlegel, 1842).

44. *Upeneus vittatus* (Forsskal, 1775).

Family : SILLAGINIDAE

Genus : **Sillago** Cuvier, 1816.

45. *Sillago sihama* (Forsskal, 1775).

Family : MENIDAE

Genus : **Mene** Lacepede, 1803.

46. *Mene maculata* (Bloch, 1801).

Family : LEIOGNATHIDAE

Genus : **Gazza** Ruppell, 1835.

47. *Gazza minuta* (Bloch, 1797).

Genus : **Leiognathus** Lacepede, 1802.

48. *Leiognathus leuciscus* (Gunther, 1860).

49. *Leiognathus lineolatus* (Valenciennes, 1835).

Family : LACTARIDAE**Genus : Lactarius Valenciennes, 1833.**

50. *Lactarius lactarius* (Schneider, 1801).

Family : CARANGIDAE**Genus : Atule Jordan and Jordan, 1922.**

51. *Atule mate* (Cuvier, 1833).

Genus : Carangoides Bleeker, 1851.

52. *Carangoides talamparoides* Bleeker, 1852.

Genus : Caranx Lacepede, 1801.

53. *Caranx carangus* (Bloch, 1793).

54. *Caranx ignobilis* (Forsskal, 1775).

Genus : Selar Bleeker, 1851.

55. *Selar crumenophthalmus* (Bloch, 1793).

Family : POMACENTRIDAE**Genus : Abudefduf Forsskal, 1775.**

56. *Abudefduf septemfasciatus* (Cuvier, 1830).

Genus : Amphiprion Bloch and Schneider, 1801.

57. *Amphiprion percula* (Lacepede, 1802).

Genus : Chrysiptera Swainson, 1839.

58. *Chrysiptera glauca* (Cuvier, 1830).

59. *Chrysiptera unimaculata* (Cuvier, 1830).

Family : LABRIDAE**Genus : Cheilinus Lacepede, 1802.**

60. *Cheilinus fasciatus* Bloch, 1791.

Genus : Labroides Bleeker, 1851.

61. *Labroides dimidiatus* (Valenciennes, 1839).

Family : SCARIDAE**Genus : Scarus Forsskal, 1775.**

62. *Scarus blochii* Valenciennes, 1839.

Family : SPHYRAENIDAE

Genus : **Sphyraena** Rose, 1793.

63. *Sphyraena forsteri* Cuvier, 1829.

Family : BLENNIIDAE

Genus : **Istiblennius** Whitley, 1943.

64. *Istiblennius lineatus* (Valenciennes, 1836).

Family : CALLIONYMIDAE

Genus : **Callionymus** Linnaeus, 1758.

65. *Callionymus enneactis* Bleeker, 1879.

66. *Callionymus filamentosus* Valenciennes, 1837.

Family : GOBIIDAE

Genus : **Acentrogobius** Bleeker, 1874.

67. *Acentrogobius ornatus* (Ruppell, 1828).

Genus : **Bathygobius** Bleeker, 1878.

68. *Bathygobius fuscus* (Ruppell, 1818).

Genus : **Oplopomus** Valenciennes, 1837.

69. *Oplopomus caninoides* (Bleeker, 1852).

Genus : **Waitea** Jordan and Seale, 1906.

70. *Waitea mystacina* (Valenciennes, 1837).

Family : ACANTHURIDAE

Genus : **Acanthurus** Forsskal, 1775.

71. *Acanthurus matoides* Valenciennes, 1835.

Family : SIGANIDAE

Genus : **Siganus** Forsskal, 1775.

72. *Siganus canaliculatus* (Park, 1797).

73. *Siganus guttatus* (Bloch, 1787).

74. *Siganus spinus* (Linnaeus, 1758).

75. *Siganus virgatus* (Valenciennes, 1835).

Family : TRICHIURIDAE

Genus : **Trichiurus** Linnaeus, 1758.

76. *Trichiurus lepturus* Linnaeus, 1758.

Family : **SCOMBRIDAE**

Genus : **Rastrelliger** Jordan and Starks, 1908.

77. *Rastrelliger kanagurta* (Cuvier, 1816).

Order : **PLEURONECTIFORMES**

Family : **BOTHIDAE**

Genus : **Engyprosopon** Gunther, 1862.

78. *Engyprosopon grandisquama* (Temminck and Schlegel, 1846).

Family : **CYNOGLOSSIDAE**

Genus : **Cynoglossus** Hamilton-Buchanan, 1822.

79. *Cynoglossus arel* (Schneider, 1801).

80. *Cynoglossus lida* (Bleeker, 1851).

Genus : **Paraplagusia** Bleeker, 1865.

81. *Paraplagusia bilineata* (Bloch, 1787).

Family : **SOLEIDAE**

Genus : **Zebrias** Jordan and Snyder, 1900.

82. *Zebrias quagga* (Kaup, 1858).

Order : **TETRAODONTIFORMES**

Family : **MONACANTHIDAE**

Genus : **Paramonacanthus** Bleeker, 1866.

83. *Paramonacanthus choirocephalus* (Bleeker, 1852).

Family : **TRIACANTHIDAE**

Genus : **Pseudotriacanthus** Fraser and Brunner, 1941.

84. *Pseudotriacanthus strigifer* (Cantor, 1849).

Family : **OSTRACIIDAE**

Genus : **Lactoria** Jordan and Fowler, 1903.

85. *Lactoria cornuta* (Linnaeus, 1758).

Family : TETRAODONTIDAE

Genus : *Lagocephalus* Swainson, 1839.

86. *Lagocephalus scleratus* (Forster, 1789).

SYSTEMATIC NOTES

1. *Ariosoma anago* (Temminck and Schlegel, 1946)

1846. *Conger anago* Temminck and Schlegel, *Fauna Japonica, Pisces* : 259, pl. 113, fig. 1 (Japan).

1955. *Ariosoma anago* : Munro, *The marine and freshwater fishes of Ceylon* : 64, pl. 12, fig. 180,

Material examined : 10, 110-212 mm TL, collected from Hut Bay, Little Andaman on 25.10.91.

Fin formula : D 170-190 (ca. 80 before vent) ; A 124-135 ; P 14 ; LL pore ca. 150 (ca. 60 before vent).

Distribution : From the east coast of India to Malay Archipelago, Japan.

2. *Amblygaster sirm* (Walbaum, 1762)

1762. *Clupea sirm* Walbaum in Artedi, *Gen. pisc.* : 38 (on Forsskal, 1775, *Descript. anim.* : 17-Arabia).

1985. *Amblygaster sirm* : Whitehead, *FAO Fish. Synop.*, (125) 7 (1) : 88.

Material examined : 1, 136 mm, collected from Hut Bay, Little Andaman on 24.10.91.

Fin Formula : D iii, 15 ; A iii, 17 ; P i, 17 ; V i, 7 ; GR 12+36 ; LS 43 ; Ltr 11 ; belly scutes 17+15.

Distribution : Indo-west Pacific : east coast of Africa, Red Sea, Madagascar ; eastward to the Philippines, Taiwan, Okinawa, New Guinea, Fiji, northern coast of Australia.

3. *Anodontosoma chacunda* (Hamilton-Buchanan, 1822)

1822. *Clupanodon chacunda* Hamilton-Buchanan, *Fishes of Ganges* : 246 (Ganges estuaries).

1985. *Anodontosoma chacunda* : Whitehead, *FAO Fish. Synop.*, (125) 7 (1) : 252.

Material examined : 1, 140 mm, collected from Rangath Bay, Middle Andamans on 16.10.91.

Fin Formula : D iii, 15 ; A ii, 16 ; P i, 14 ; V i, 7 ; lower GR 77 ; LS 40 ; Ltr 13 ; belly scutes 18+10.

Distribution : Indian Ocean : the 'Gulf' to coasts of India, Andaman Sea ; Western Pacific : Gulf of Thailand, northern Australia, the Caroline Islands, New Caledonia ; Indonesia, the Philippines, Vietnam.

4. *Herklotsichthys quadrimaculatus* (Ruppell, 1837)

1837. *Clupea quadrimaculatus* Ruppell, *Nueu Wirbelth. Fische.* : 78, pl. 21, fig. 3.

1985. *Herklotsichthys quadrimaculatus* : Whitehead, *FAO Fish. Synop.*, (125) 7 (1) : 81.

Material examined : 2, 104-109 mm, collected from Yerata Jetty, Rangath, Middle Andamans on 18.10.91 ; 8, 94-103 mm, collected from Hut Bay, Little Andaman on 24.10.91.

Fin Formula : D iii, 14-15 ; A ii-iii, 14-15 ; P i, 13-14 ; V i, 7 : GR (12-15)+(30-32) ; LS 39-42 ; belly scutes (17-19)+(11-13).

Distribution : Widespread in Indian Ocean and Western Pacific, also Hawaii.

5. *Sardinella albella* (Valenciennes, 1847)

1847. *Kowala albella* Valenciennes, *Hist. nat. poiss.*, 20 : 362 (Pondicherry).

1973. *Sardinella albella* : Whitehead, *J. mar. biol. Ass. India*, 14 (1) : 183, fig. 13.

Material examined : 2, 100-130 mm, collected from Rangath Bay, Middle Andamans on 16.10.91.

Fin Formula : D iv, 14-15 ; A iii, 16 ; P i, 13-14 ; V i, 7 ; GR (26-28)+(54-57) ; LS 39-44 ; belly scutes 18+(12-13), total 30-31.

Distribution : Indo-west Pacific : East African coast, Madagascar, Red Sea, coasts of India, eastward to Indonesia, north to Taiwan, south to Papua New Guinea, northern coasts of Australia.

6. *Sardinella gibbosa* (Bleeker, 1849)

1849. *Clupea gibbosa* Bleeker, *J. Ind. Arch.*, 3 : 92 (Macassar).

1973. *Sardinella gibbosa* : Whitehead, *J. mar. biol. Ass. India*, 14 (1) : 185, fig. 15.

Material examined : 1, 116 mm, collected from Rangath Bay, Middle Andamans on 16.10.91.

Fin formula : D iv, 15 ; A iii, 16 ; P i, 14 ; V i, 7 ; LS 38 ; GR 24+55 ; belly scutes 18+14.

Distribution : Indo-west Pacific : from East African coast eastward to Indonesia, north to Taiwan and Korea, south to northern Australia.

Remark : This is the first record of occurrence from Andaman and Nicobar Islands, reported elsewhere in detail.

7. *Stolephorus commersonii* Lacepede, 1803

1803. *Stolephorus commersonii* Lacepede, *Hist. nat. poiss.*, 5 : 381, 382, pl. 12, fig. 1 (Mauritius).

Material examined : 2, 88-92 mm, collected from Neil Island, South Andamans on 12.10.91.

Fin formula : D iii, 12 ; A iii, 20 ; P ii, 13 ; V i, 7 ; LS 34-35 ; Ltr 7 ; GR (16-17) + (24-25) ; pre pelvic scutes 3.

Distribution : Widespread in Indian Ocean and Western Pacific.

8. *Stolephorus waitei* Jordan and Seale, 1926

1926. *Stolephorus waitei* Jordan and Seale, *Bull. Mus. Comp. Zool. Harvard*, 67 (11) : 380 (Queensland).

Material examined : 1, 57 mm, collected from Neil Island, South Andamans on 12.10.91.

Fin formula : D iii, 12 ; A iii, 19 ; P ii, 13 ; V i, 7 ; LS 37 ; GR 15+20 ; pre pelvic scutes 6.

Distribution : Eastern Indian Ocean : from Cochin to Myanmar, Sri Lanka ; Western Pacific : Thailand, Java sea, the Philippine, Papua New Guinea, South to Queensland.

9. *Thryssa baelama* (Forsskal, 1775)

1775. *Clupea baelama* Forsskal, *Descript. anim.* : 72 (Djedda),

1988. *Thryssa baelama* : Whitehead *et al*, *FAO Fish. Synop.*, (125) 7 (2) : 425.

Material examined : 1, 63 mm, collected from Havelock Island South Andamans on 9.10.91.

Fin formula : D iii, 11 ; A iii, 29 ; P i, 12 ; V i, 6 ; GR 15+18 ; belly scutes 7+9.

Distribution : Widespread in Indian Ocean and western Central Pacific.

10. *Thryssa encrassicholoides* (Bleeker, 1852)

1852. *Engraulis encrassicholoides* Bleeker, *Nat. Tijdschr. Ned.-Indie*, 3 : 173 (Jakarta, Suraqaya, Kammal, Kupang).

1988. *Thryssa encrassicholoides* : Whitehead *et al*, *FAO Fish. Synop.*, (125) 7 (2) : 430.

Material examined : 1, 47 mm, collected from Havelock Island, South Andamans on 9.10.91.

Fin formula : D iii, 13 ; A iii, 25 ; P i, 12 ; V i, 6 ; GR 15+18 ; belly scutes 1, 6+9.

Distribution : Sri Lanka, India, Java, Sulawesi, Timor, Ambon, the Philippines, northern Queensland.

Remark : As most of the scales have fallen off before examination, lateral scale count could not be given. Its distribution may be more widespread in Indian Ocean. Often confused with *T. baelama*.

11. *Saurida micropectoralis* Shindo and Yamada, 1972

1972. *Saurida micropectoralis* Shindo and Yamada, *UO Jap. Soc. Ichthyol.*, 11 : 1-13, ; 12 : 1-14 (Gulf of Thailand).

Material examined : 1, 76 mm, collected from John Lawrence Island, South Andamans on 9.10.91; 3, 73-92 mm, collected from Hut Bay, Little Andaman on 25.10.91.

Fin formula : D 12-13 ; A 9-11 ; P 13-14 ; V 9 ; LL 48-52 ; Ltr $3\frac{1}{2}/5$.

Distribution : East coast of India, Andaman sea to South China Sea, the Philippines.

12. *Saurida nebulosa* Valenciennes, 1849

1849. *Saurida nebulosa* Valenciennes in Cuvier and Valenciennes, *Hist. nat, poiss.*, 22 : 504.

Material examined : 1, 78 mm, collected from John Lawrence Island, South Andamans on 9.10.91; 2, 75-136 mm, collected from Hut Bay, Little Andaman on 25.10.91.

Fin formula : D 10 ; A 9-10 ; P 12-13 ; V 9 : LL 48-52 : Ltr $3\frac{1}{2}/5$.

Distribution : Mauritius, Aldabra Islands, Southern India, Thailand to the Philippines, Australia, New Guinea, Okinawa, Guam, Palau, Tahiti, Hawaii.

Remark : It is often misidentified as *S. gracilis* (Quoy and Gaimard, 1824). This is the first record of occurrence from Andaman and Nicobar Islands, reported elsewhere in detail.

13. *Saurida tumbil* (Bloch, 1795)

1795. *Salmo tumbil* Bloch, *Naturges. ausland. Fische*, 9 : 112, pl. 430 (Malabar).

1877. *Saurida tumbil* : Day, *Fishes of India* : 504, pl. 117, fig. 6.

Material examined : 1, 153 mm, collected from Rangath Bay, Middle Andamans on 19.10.91.

Fin formula : D 11 ; A 10 ; P 16 ; V 9 ; LL 57 ; Ltr 4/6.

Distribution : East coast of Africa (excluding Kenya and Somalia), from Red Sea eastward to the East Indies, Malay archipelago, north to China Sea, south to New South Wales (Australia).

14. *Atherinomorus lacunosus* (Forster, 1801)

1801. *Atherina lacunosa* Forster in Bloch and Schneider, *Syst. Ichthyol.* : 112 (Moreton Bay, Queensland).

1984. *Atherinomorus lacunosus* : Talwar and Kacker, *Commercial Sea fishes of India* : 329, fig. 135.

Material examined : 4, 72-74 mm, collected from Kalapathar, Havelock Island, South Andamans on 5.10.91.

Fin formula : D V-VI+I, 9-10 ; A I, 12-13 ; P 15-16 ; V I, 5 ; GR (5-6)+(20-23) ; LS 44-46 ; Ltr 6.

Distribution : Throughout the Indian Ocean, central Pacific ; also in the southeastern Mediterranean.

15. *Fistularia commersonii* Ruppell, 1838

1838. *Fistularia commersonii* Ruppell, *Neue Wirbelth. Fauna Abyssinian gehoig, Fische* : 142 (Mohila, Red Sea).

Material examined : 2, 203-210 mm, collected from Hut Bay, Little Andaman on 25.10.91.

Fin formula : D 15-16 ; A 14 ; P 15 ; V 6 ; LL ca. 100.

Distribution : Throughout the tropical Indo-Pacific : east African coast to America north to Japan, south to Australia.

16. *Fistularia petimba* Lacepede, 1803

1803. *Fistularia petimba* Lacepede, *Hist. nat. poiss.*, 5 : 189 (New Britain, Reunion and equatorial Pacific).

Material examined : 3, 169-220 mm, collected from Hut Bay, Little Andaman on 25.10.91.

Fin formula : D 14 ; A 14 ; P 16 ; V 6 ; LL ca. 80.

Distribution : East African coast to western Pacific to Hawaii, north to Japan, south to Southern Australia, also in tropical Atlantic.

17. *Centriscus scutatus* Linnaeus, 1753

1753. *Centriscus scutatus* Linnaeus, *Syst. Nat.*, (ed. 10) : 336.

Material examined : 3, 65-74 mm, collected from Hut Bay, Little Andaman on 25.10.91.

Fin formula : D III+10 – 11 ; A 11-12 ; P 11 ; V 4.

Distribution : Indo-west Pacific : from Red Sea through coasts of India to the Philippines, China.

18. *Rogadius pristiger* (Cuvier, 1801)

1829. *Platycephalus pristiger* Cuvier in Cuvier and Valenciennes, *Hist. nat. poiss.*, 4 : 250 (Japan).

1975. *Rogadius pristiger* : Murty, *J. mar. biol. Ass. India*, 17 (3) : 682 pl. 1.

Material examined : 1, 67 mm, collected from Hut Bay, Little Andaman on 25.10.91.

Fin formula : D IX+I, A 10 ; P 21 ; V I, 5 ; GR 1+7 ; LL pored 53 : Ltr 4/18.

Distribution : Indo-Pacific : east coast of Africa to the Philippines, Japan, Australia.

19. *Ambassis urotaenia* Bleeker, 1852

1852. *Ambassis urotaenia* Bleeker, *Nat. Tijdschr. Ned.-Indie*, 3 : 257.

Material examined : 2, 38-40 mm, collected from Wilson Island, South Andamans on 9.10.91.

Fin formula : D VII+I, 9 ; A III, 9 ; P 16 ; V I, 5 ; GR 9+24 ; LL 26-27 ; Ltr 2/7, pre dorsal scales 9.

Distribution : Indo-west pacific : In India restricted to the Andaman and Nicobar Islands.

20. *Epinephelus caeruleopunctatus* (Bloch, 1790)

1790. *Holocentrus caeruleopunctatus* Bloch, *Naturges. ausland. Fische*, 4 : 94, pl. 242, fig. 2.
 1984. *Epinephelus caeruleopunctatus* : Talwar and Kacker, *Commercial sea fishes of India* : 382.

Material examined : 1, 112 mm, collected from Hut Bay, Little Andaman on 24.10.91.

Fin formula : D XI, 16 ; A. IV, 8 ; P 18 ; V I, 5 ; GR 8+15 ; LL 55 ; transverse scales between LL and base of mid-dorsal spine 12.

Distribution : Widespread in Indo-Pacific.

21. *Epinephelus quoyanus* (Valenciennes, 1830)

1830. *Serranus quoyanus* Valenciennes in Cuvier and Valenciennes, *Hist. nat. poiss.*, 6 : 519.
 1984. *Epinephelus quoyanus* : Heemstra and Randall in Fischer and Bianchi, *FAO species identification sheets for fishery purposes. W Indian Ocean (Fishing Area 51)*, 4 : SERRAN Epin 49,

Material examined : 1, 145 mm, collected from John Lawrence Island, South Andamans on 8.10.91 ; 1, 203 mm, collected from Rangath Bay, Middle Andamans on 17.10.91.

Fin formula : D XI, 16-17 ; A III, 8 ; P 16 ; V I, 5 ; GR (5-6)+(13-14) ; LL 48 ; transverse scales between LL and base of mid-dorsal spine 9.

Distribution : Coasts of India, New Guinea.

Remark : Distribution of this species is not clear because of confusion with other species (Heemstra and Randall, 1984).

22. *Terapon jarbua* (Forsskal, 1775)

1775. *Sciaena jarbua* Forsskal, *Descript. anim.* : 50 (Jedda).
 1984. *Terapon jarbua* : Talwar and Kacker, *Commercial sea fishes of India* : 406, fig. 156.

Material examined : 1, 51 mm, collected from Wilson Island, South Andamans on 9.10.91.

Fin formula : D IX+I, 10 ; A III, 8 ; P 15 ; V I, 5 ; GR 6+13 ; LL 89 ; Ltr 15/23.

Distribution : Widespread in Indo-Pacific.

23. *Priacanthus blochii* Bleeker, 1853

1853. *Priacanthus blochii* Bleeker, *Nat. Tijdschr. Ned.-Indie*, 4 : 456.

Material examined : 2, 71-75 mm, collected from Hut Bay, Little Andaman on 25.10.91.

Fin formula : D X, 13 ; A III, 14 ; P 15 ; V I, 5 ; GR 4+16 ; LL 68 ; Ltr 7/40.

Distribution : Seychelles ; eastern Indian Ocean, Indonesia to Samoa.

Remark : Probably present in other insular areas of Indian Ocean but often mistaken for *P. hamrur* (Forsskal, 1775).

24. *Apogon (Nectamia) novemfasciatus* Cuvier, 1828

1828. *Apogon novemfasciatus* Cuvier in Cuvier and Valenciennes, *Hist. nat. poiss.*, 2 : 154.

Material examined : 1, 59 mm, collected from Havelock Island, South Andamans on 9.10.91.

Fin formula : D VII+I, 9 ; A II, 8 ; P 13 ; V I, 5 ; GR 3+13 ; LL 27 ; Ltr 2/7.

Distribution : Indo-west Pacific : from east coast of Africa, Red Sea, through coasts of India to the Philippines to Hong Kong, northern coast of Australia, southern Pacific Islands up to Society Islands.

25. *Apogonichthys perdix* Bleeker, 1854

1854. *Apogonichthys perdix* Bleeker, *Nat. Tijdschr. Ned.-Indie*, 6 : 321 (Floris Is., East Indies).

Material examined : 1, 41 mm, collected from Rangath Bay, Middle Andamans on 17.10.91.

Fin formula : D VII+I, 9 ; A II, 8 ; P 13 ; V I, 5 ; GR 3+12 ; LL 24 ; Ltr $1\frac{1}{2}/6$.

Distribution : Indo-west Pacific : East African coasts ; Red sea ; Flores, Biaru, Buru, Ceram, Nusa Laut, Sulu Islands in western Pacific.

Remark : This is the first record of occurrence from Indian waters, details reported elsewhere.

26. *Fowleria aurita* (Valenciennes, 1831)

1831. *Apogon auritus* Valenciennes in Cuvier and Valenciennes, *Hist. nat. poissons*, 7 : 443 (Mauritius)

1986. *Fowleria aurita* : Gon in Smith and Heemstra, *Smith's Sea fishes* : Apogonidae : 556, pl. 50, fig. 175-39.

Material examined : 1, 47 mm, collected from Wilson Island, South Andamans on 9.10.91.

Fin formula : D VII+I, 9 ; A III, 8 ; P 14 ; V I, 5 ; GR 3+12 : LL 10 ; Ltr 1/6.

Distribution : Indo-Pacific : From east coast of Africa, Red Sea, through coasts of India to the Philippines, coasts of northern Australia to Samoa and Tonga Islands.

27. *Sphaeramia orbicularis* (Kuhl and Van Hasselt, 1828)

1828. *Apogon orbicularis* Kuhl and van Hasselt in Cuvier and Valenciennes, *Hist. nat. poissons*, 2 : 155 (Java).

1986. *Sphaeramia orbicularis* : Gon in Smith and Heemstra, *Smith's Sea fishes* : Apogonidae : 557, pl. 50, fig. 175-43.

Material examined : 1, 57 mm, collected from Havelock Island, South Andamans on 9.10.91 ; 1, 34 mm, collected from Hut Bay, Little Andaman on 25.10.91.

Fin formula : D VI+I, 9-10 ; A II, 9 ; P 10 ; V I, 5 ; GR 5+19 ; LL 25 ; Ltr 2/6,

Distribution : Indo-west Pacific,

28. Plectorhinchus orientalis (Bloch, 1793)

1793. *Anthias orientalis* Bloch, *Ausland. Fische*, 7 : 10.

1984. *Plectorhinchus orientalis* : McKay in Fischer and Bianchi, *FAO species identification sheets for fishery purposes. W. Indian Ocean (Fishing Area 51)*, 2 : HAEM Plect 11.

Material examined : 1, 36 mm, collected from Havelock Island, South Andamans on 9.10.91.

Fin formula : D XII, 20 ; A III, 9 ; P 17 ; V I, 5 ; GR 8 + 21 ; LL 72 ; Ltr 13/17.

Distribution : Indo-west Pacific.

29. Pomadasys argyreus (Valenciennes, 1833)

1833. *Pristipoma argyreum* Valenciennes in Cuvier and Valenciennes, *Hist. nat. poiss.*, 9 : 485.

1984. *Pomadasys argyreus* : McKay in Fischer and Bianchi, *FAO species identification sheets for fishery purposes. W. Indian Ocean (Fishing Area 51)*, 2 : HAEM Pomad 10.

Material examined : 1, 67 mm, collected from Neil Island, South Andamans on 12.10.91.

Fin formula : D XII, 13 ; A III, 7 ; P 15 ; V I, 5 ; GR 7 + 12 ; LL 54 ; Ltr 6/17.

Distribution : From Pakistan, coasts of India to the Philippines.

30. Lutjanus biguttatus (Valenciennes, 1830)

1830. *Serranus biguttatus* Valenciennes, *Hist. nat. poiss.*, 6 : 507 (Trincomallee, Sri Lanka).

1875. *Lutjanus biguttatus* : Day, *Fishes of India* : 34, pl. 10, fig. 6.

Material examined : 1, 155 mm, collected from Hut Bay, Little Andamans on 24.10.91.

Fin formula : D X, 12 ; A III, 8 ; P 15 ; V I, 5 ; GR 6 + 15 ; LL 55 ; Ltr 5/14.

Distribution : Sri Lanka, Andaman Sea, through the East Indies to the Philippines.

31. *Lutjanus bohar* (Forsskal, 1775)

1775. *Sciaena bohar* Forsskal., *Descript. anim.* : 46 (Red Sea).

1875. *Lutjanus bohar* : Day, *Fishes of India* : 44, pl. 13, fig. 4.

Material examined : 1, 160 mm, collected from Rangath Bay, Middle Andamans on 17.10.91.

Fin formula : D X, 14 ; A III, 8 ; P 15 ; V I, 5 ; GR 5+8 ; LL 52 ; Ltr 5/14.

Distribution : Widespread in the tropical Indo-west Pacific.

32. *Lutjanus decussatus* (Cuvier, 1828)

1828. *Mesoprion decussatus* Cuvier, *Hist. nat. poiss.*, 2 : 487 (Java).

1875. *Lutjanus decussatus* : Day, *Fishes of India* : 47, pl. 14, fig. 4.

Material examined : 2, 142-167 mm, collected from Wilson Island, South on 9.10.91.

Fin formula : D X, 13 ; A III, 8 ; P 16 ; V I, 5 ; GR 1+(7-8) ; LL 49-50 ; Ltr 6/17.

Distribution : India, Sri Lanka, Andaman Islands, the East Indies to the Philippines.

33. *Lutjanus quinquelineatus* (Bloch, 1790)

1790. *Holocentrus quinquelineatus* Bloch, *Naturges. ausland. Fische*, 4 : 84.

1984. *Lutjanus quinquelineatus* : Allen in Fischer and Bianchi, *FAO species identification sheets for fishery purposes. W. Indian Ocean (Fishing Area 51)*, 3 : LUT Lut40.

Material examined : 2, 84-98 mm, collected from Hut Bay, Little Andaman on 24.10.91.

Fin formula : D X, 14 ; A III, 8 ; P 15 ; V I, 5 ; GR 6+14 ; LL 51-52 ; Scales between LL and the base of mid-dorsal spine 6.

Distribution : Sri Lanka, Southern coast of India, the eastern Indian Ocean and the western central Pacific.

34. *Lutjanus russelli* (Bleeker, 1849)

1849. *Mesoprion russelli* Bleeker, *Verh. Batav. Gen.*, 22, Percoiden : 41 (India).

1936. *Lutjanus russelli* ; Weber and de Beaufort, *Fish. Indo-Aust. Archip.*, 7 : 272.

Material examined : 1, 28 mm collected from Neil Island, South Andamans on 12.10.91 ; 1, 150 mm, collected from Yerata Jetty, Rangath, Middle Andamans on 18.10.91.

Fin formula : D X, 14-15 ; A III, 8 ; P 16 ; V I, 5 ; GR (5-6)+(7-10) ; LL 50 ; Ltr 6/17.

Distribution : Widely distributed in Indo-west Pacific.

35. *Caesio caeruleus* Lacepede, 1801

1801. *Caesio caeruleus* Lacepede, *Hist. nat. poiss.*, 3 : 85 (Moluccas).

Material examined : 2, 90-114 mm, collected from Hut Bay, Little Andaman on 24/25.10.91.

Fin formula : D X+ 14-15 ; A III, 12 ; P 21-22 ; V I, 5 ; GR (7-8)+(23-25) ; LL 66 ; Ltr 8/16.

Distribution : Widespread in the tropical Indo-west Pacific excluding the Persian Gulf.

36. *Gymnocranius griseus* (Schlegel, 1844)

1844. *Dentex griseus* Schlegel in Temminck and Schlegel, *Fauna Japonica, Pisces* : 72, pl. 36 (Japan)

1986. *Gymnocranius griseus* : Heemstra in Smith and Heemstra, *Smith's sea fishes, Lethrinidae* : 595, fig. 185-2.

Material examined : 2, 49-52 mm, collected from Havelock Island, South Andamans on 9.10.91.

Fin formula : D X, 10 ; A III, 10 ; P 14 ; V I, 5 ; GR 3+5 ; LL 48 ; Ltr 6/16.

Distribution : Widespread in tropical Indo-west Pacific.

Remark : This is the first record of occurrence from Andaman and Nicobar Islands, reported in detail elsewhere.

37. *Lethrinus mahsena* (Forsskal, 1775)

1775. *Sciaena mahsena* Forsskal, *Descript. anim.* : 52 (Red Sea).

1936. *Lethrinus mahsena* : Weber and de Beaufort, *Fish. Indo-Aust. Archip.*, 7 : 444.

Material examined : 1, 180 mm, collected from Rangath Bay, Middle Andamans on 17.10. 91.

Fin formula : D X, 9 ; A III, 8 ; P 13 ; V I, 5 ; GR 4+6 ; LL 48 ; Ltr 6/15.

Distribution : The east African coast, Red Sea, Madagascar, Seychelles, Aldabra, Mauritius, the "Gulf", Andamans, Chagos archipelago, northern Australia, western central Pacific.

38. *Nemipterus randalli* Russell, 1986

1986. *Nemipterus randalli* Russell, *Senchenberg. Biol.*, 67 : 23, fig. 2 (Persian Gulf, Red Sea, Gulf of Aden, Zanzibar, Seychelles, Madagascar, Pakistan, India).

Material examined : 1, 82 mm, collected from Rangath Bay, Middle Andamans on 19.10.91.

Fin formula : D X, 9 ; A III, 7 ; P 17 ; V I, 5 ; GR 6+8 ; LL 45 ; Ltr 4/9.

Distribution : Western Indian Ocean : from east coast of South Africa to the east coast of India.

Remark : This is the first record of occurrence from Andaman and Nicobar Islands. Extension of range of occurrence reported in detail elsewhere.

39. *Scolopsis bilineatus* (Bloch, 1793)

1793. *Anthias bilineatus* Bloch, *Naturges. ausland. Fische*, 7 : 3, pl. 325, fig. 1 (Japan).

1990. *Scolopsis bilineatus* : Russell, *FAO Fish. Synop.* (125) 12 : 105, fig. 197, pl. 6, f, g, h.

Material examined : 1, 105 mm, collected from Hut Bay, Little Andaman on 24.10.91.

Fin formula : D X, 9 ; A III, 7 ; P 17 ; V I, 5 ; GR 4+5 ; LL 46 ;
Ltr 3/16.

Distribution : The Laccadive Islands, Sri Lanka, Andaman Sea, western Australia, the western Pacific.

40. *Scolopsis ciliatus* (Lacepede, 1802)

1802. *Holocentrus ciliatus* Lacepede, *Hist. nat. poiss.*, 4 : 33.

1990. *Scolopsis ciliatus* : Russell, *FAO Fish. Synop.*, (125) 12 : 108, fig. 201, pl. 7, b.

Material examined : 1, 102 mm, collected from Rangath Bay, Middle Andamans on 24.10.91.

Fin formula : D X, 9 ; A III, 7 ; P 16 ; V I, 5 ; GR 4+6 ; LL 42 ;
Ltr 3/15.

Distribution : Andaman Sea, western Pacific up to Solomon Isles.

41. *Scatophagus argus* (Linnaeus, 1766)

1766. *Chaetodon argus* Linnaeus, *Systema Naturae* (ed. 12), 1 : 464 (India),

1991. *Scatophagus argus* : Talwar and Jhingran, *Inland fishes of India*, 2 : 875, fig. 264.

Material examined : 1, 42 mm, collected from Havelock Island, South Andamans on 14.10.91.

Fin formula : D XI, 16 ; A VI, 14 ; P 17 ; V I, 5 ; GR 5+12 ; LL ca. 100.

Distribution : India, Sri Lanka, through the East Indies to Australia, the New Hebrides, Solomon Islands.

42. *Gerres filamentosus* Cuvier, 1829

1829. *Gerres filamentosus* Cuvier, *Regne Animal* (ed. 2), 2 : 188 (based on Russell, 1803, *Fishes of Coromandel*, 1 : 52, fig. 67) (Vizagapatnam, India).

Material examined : 1, 192 mm, collected from Rangath Bay, Middle Andamans on 16.10.91.

Fin formula : D IX, 10 ; A III, 7 ; P 15 ; V I, 5 ; GR 1+7 ; LL 45 ; Ltr 5/12.

Distribution : Widespread in tropical Indo-Pacific.

43. *Upeneus bensasi* (Schlegel, 1842)

1842. *Mullus bensasi* Schlegel in Temminck and Schlegel, *Fauna Japonica, Pisces* : 30. pl. 1, fig. 2 (Bay of Nagasaki, Japan).

1969. *Upeneus bensasi* : Thomas, *The Goat fishes (Family : Mullidae) of the Indian Seas* : 10, pl. 1, fig. B.

Material examined : 1, 83 mm, collected from Hut Bay, Little Andaman on 24.10.91.

Fin formula : D VII+I, 8 ; A I, 6 ; P 13 ; V I, 5 ; GR 6+20 ; LL 30 ; Ltr 2/6.

Distribution : Widespread in Indo-west Pacific.

44. *Upeneus vittatus* (Forsskal, 1775)

1775. *Mullus vittatus* Forsskal, *Descript. anim.* : 31 (Djedda).

1969. *Upeneus vittatus* : Thomas, *The Goat Fishes (Family : Mullidae) of the Indian Seas* : 23, pl. 2, fig. C.

Material examined : 1, 112 mm, collected from Hut Bay, Little Andaman on 24.10.91.

Fin formula : D VIII+I, 8 ; A I, 6 ; P 15 ; V I, 5 ; GR 9+18 ; LL 36 ; Ltr 3/7.

Distribution : Throughout the Indo-Pacific region.

45. *Sillago sihama* (Forsskal, 1775)

1775. *Atherina sihama* Forsskal, *Descript. anim.* : 70 (Lohaja, Red Sea).

1876. *Sillago sihama* : Day, *Fishes of India* : 265, pl. 57, fig. 3.

Material examined : 1, 65 mm, collected from Wilson Island, South Andamans on 9.10.91 ; 1, 108 mm, collected from Havelock Island, South Andamans on 14.10.91 ; 1, 178 mm, collected from Yerata jetty ; Rangath, Middle Andamans on 18.10.91 ; 9, 38-129 mm, collected from Hut Bay, Little Andaman on 25.10.91.

Fin formula : D XI+I, 21 ; A II, 21 ; P 15 ; V I, 5 ; GR 2+(9-11) ; LL 67-72 ; Ltr 5-6/9-10.

Distribution : Indo-west Pacific.

46. *Mene maculata* (Bloch, 1801)

1801. *Zeus maculatus* Bloch in Bloch and Schneider, *Syst. Ichth.* : 95, pl. 22 (Tranquebar, India).

1876. *Mene maculata* : Day, *Fishes of India* : 249, pl. 53, fig. 5.

Material examined : 1, 148 mm, collected from Yerata jetty, Rangath, Middle Andamans on 18.10.91.

Fin formula : D III, 43 ; A 33 ; P 15 ; V I, 5 ; GR 7+26.

Distribution : Central tropical Indo-Pacific.

47. *Gazza minuta* (Bloch, 1797)

1797. *Scomber minutus* Bloch, *Ichthyologie* : 110, pl. 429, fig. 2 (Malabar).

1876. *Gazza minuta* : Day, *Fishes of India* : 224, pl. 53, fig. 1.

Material examined : 1, 68 mm. collected from Rangath Bay, Middle Andamans on 16.10.91.

Fin formula : D VIII, 16 ; A III, 14 ; P 17 ; V I, 5 ; GR 5+16 ; LL 58.

Distribution : Tropical Indo-Pacific.

48. *Leiognathus leuciscus* (Gunther, 1860)

1860. *Equula leuciscus* Gunther, *Cat. Fishes Br. Mus.*, 2 : 503 (Amboyna).

1978. *Leiognathus leuciscus* : James, *J. mar. biol. Ass. India*, 17 (1) : 156, pl. 2ç.

Material examined : 2, 76-90 mm, collected from Hut Bay, Little Andaman on 24.10.91.

Fin formula : D VIII, 16 ; A III, 14 ; P 17 ; V I, 5 ; GR 4+12.

Distribution : Eastern Indian Ocean, eastward to the Philippines, Taiwan, Australia.

49. *Leiognathus lineolatus* (Valenciennes, 1835)

1835. *Equula lineolata* Valenciennes in Cuvier and Valenciennes, *Hist. nat. poiss.*, 10 : 86.

1978. *Leiognathus lineolatus* : James, *J. mar. biol. Ass. India*, 17 (1) : 163, pl. 20.

Material examined : 1, 78 mm, collected from Hut Bay, Little Andaman on 24.10.91.

Fin formula : D VIII, 16 ; A III, 14 ; P 16 ; V I, 5 ; GR 5+13.

Distribution : Madagascar, Red Sea, the Gulf, coasts of India, Indo-Australian Archipelago, Japan, the Philippines, Queensland.

50. *Lactarius lactarius* (Schneider, 1801)

1801. *Scomber lactarius* Schneider, *Syst. Ichth. Bloch* : 31 (Tranquebar, India).

1984. *Lactarius lactarius* : Talwar and Kacker, *Commercial Sea fishes of India* : 427, fig. 165.

Material examined : 1, 93 mm, collected from Neil Island, South Andamans on 12.10.91.

Fin formula : D VIII+1, 21 ; A III, 25 ; P 18 ; V I, 5 ; GR 3+13 ; LL 74.

Distribution : Widespread in Indo-west Pacific.

51. *Atule mate* (Cuvier, 1833)

1833. *Caranx mate* Cuvier, *Hist. nat. poiss.*, 9 : 54 (Pondicherry, Seychelles, New Guinea, Anjer strait).

1984. *Atule mate* : Talwar and Kacker, *Commercial Sea fishes of India* : 444, fig. 171.

Material examined : 1, 150 mm, collected from Hut Bay, Little Andaman on 24.10.91.

Fin formula : D VIII+I, 23 ; A II, I, 20 ; P 22 ; V I, 5 ; GR 12+30 ; LL 102 (LL curved 55 ; LL straight 7+40 scutes).

Distribution : Widespread in the tropical Indo-west Pacific.

52. *Carangoides talamparoides* Bleeker, 1852

1852. *Carangoides talamparoides* Bleeker, *Makreel. Vissch. Verh. Batav. Gen.*, 24 : 91.

Material examined : 1, 77 mm, collected from Hut Bay, Little Andaman on 24.10.91.

Fin formula : D I, VIII+I, 21 ; A II, 18 ; P 21 ; V I, 5 ; GR 7+21 ; LL 109 (LL curved 74+LL straight 35) ; LL scutes 21.

Distribution : Indo-west Pacific : from the Gulf of Oman through coasts of India to the Philippines, Australia.

Remark : This is the first record of occurrence from Andaman and Nicobar Islands, reported elsewhere in detail.

53. *Caranx carangus* (Bloch, 1793)

1793. *Scomber carangus* Bloch, *Naturges. ausland. Fische*, 7 : 69 (Antilles, Atlantic Ocean).

1876. *Caranx carangus* : Day, *Fishes of India* : 215, pl. 50, fig. 4.

Material examined : 1, 103 mm, collected from Hut Bay, Little Andaman on 24.10.91.

Fin formula : D I, VIII+I, 20 ; A II, I, 16 ; P 21 ; V I, 5 ; GR 5+17 ; LL 96 (LL curved 57+LL straight 5+34 scutes).

Distribution : From India through the East Indies to China, Japan, the Philippines ; tropical Atlantic.

54. *Caranx ignobilis* (Forsskal, 1775)

1775. *Scomber ignobilis* Forsskal, *Descript. anim.* : 55 (Djedda and Lohaja, Red Sea).

1984. *Caranx ignobilis* : Talwar and Kacker, *Commercial sea fishes of India* : 461, fig. 176.

Material examined : 1, 51 mm, collected from Hut Bay, Little Andaman. on 25.10.91.

Fin formula : D I, VIII+I, 18 ; A, II, I, 16 ; P 21 ; V I, 5 ; GR 5+15 ; LL 86 (LL curved 53+LL straight 4+29 scutes).

Distribution : Tropical Indo-west Pacific.

55. *Selar crumenophthalmus* (Bloch, 1793)

1793. *Scomber crumenophthalmus* Bloch, *Naturges. ausland. Fische*, 7 : 77, pl. 343 (Acara Bay, Guinea).

1984. *Selar crumenophthalmus* : Talwar and Kacker, *Commercial sea Fishes of India* : 481, fig. 185.

Material examined : 1, 91 mm, collected from Havelock Island, South Andamans on 9.10.91 ; 1, 95 mm, collected from Rangath Bay, Middle Andamans on 19.10.91 ; 3, 107-196 mm, collected from Hut Bay, Little Andaman on 24.10.91.

Fin formula : D VIII+I, 25-27 ; A II, I, 21-23 ; P 20-22 ; V I, 5 ; GR (8-9)+(28-29) ; LL 82-95 ; LL scutes 28-40.

Distribution : Worldwide, in tropical and subtropical Indo-Pacific and Atlantic.

56. *Abudefduf septemfasciatus* (Cuvier, 1830)

1830. *Glyphisodon septemfasciatus* Cuvier in Cuvier and Valenciennes, *Hist. nat. poiss.*, 5 : 463 (Mauritius).

1986. *Abudefduf septemfasciatus* : Allen in Smith and Heemstra, *Smith's Sea fishes* : 672, pl. 85, fig. 219-3,

Material examined : 2, 16-20 mm, collected from Havelock Island, South Andaman on 9.10.91 ; 6, 17-24 mm, collected from Rangath Bay, Middle Andamans on 16.10.91.

Fin formula : D XIII, 12-13 ; A II, 12-13 ; P 18 ; V I, 5 ; LL 21-22 ; total GR 17-19.

Distribution : Indo-west Pacific, Red Sea, South to Pinda, Mozambique.

57. Amphiprion percula (Lacepede, 1802)

1802. *Lutjanus percula* Lacepede, *Hist. nat. poiss.*, 4 : 194, 239.

1877. *Amphiprion percula* : Day, *Fishes of India* : 379, pl. 80, fig. 4.

Material examined : 1, 47mm, collected from Havelock Island, South Andamans on 9.10.91.

Fin formula : D XI, 15 ; A II, 11 ; P 15 ; V I, 5 ; GR 4+10 ; LL pored 38 ; LS 57 ; Ltr 6/24.

Distribution : Coasts of India to the Philippines, China, Queensland, eastward to Fiji. Solomon Islands, Society Islands.

58. Chrysiptera glauca (Cuvier, 1830)

1830. *Glyphisodon glaucus* Cuvier in Cuvier and Valenciennes, *Hist. nat. poiss.*, 5 : 475 (Guam).

1986. *Chrysiptera glauca* : Allen in Smith and Heemstra, *Smith's Sea Fishes* : 676, pl. 87, fig. 219·22.

Material examined : 5, 22-69 mm, collected from Havelock Island, South Andaman on 14.10.91.

Fin formula : D XIII, 12 ; A II, 12 ; P 18 ; V I, 5 ; Total GR 23-25 ; LL Pored 18 ; LS 26 ; Ltr $1\frac{1}{2}$ /8.

Distribution : Indo-west Pacific.

59. Chrysiptera unimaculata (Cuvier, 1830)

1830. *Glyphisodon unimaculatus* Cuvier in Cuvier and Valenciennes, *Hist. nat. poiss.*, 5 : 478 (Timor).

1986. *Chrysiptera unimaculata* : Allen in Smith and Heemstra, *Smith's Sea Fishes* : 676, pl. 84, fig. 219·24.

Material examined : 1, 53 mm, collected from Havelock Island, South Andamans on 9.10.91.

Fin formula : D XIII, 14 ; A III, 12 ; P 19 ; V I, 5 ; Total GR 22 ; LL pored 17 ; LS 26 ; Ltr $1\frac{1}{2}$ /7.

Distribution : Indian Ocean and Indo-Australian Archipelago.

Remark : This is the first record of occurrence from Andaman and Nicobar Islands.

60. *Cheilinus fasciatus* Bloch, 1791

1791. *Cheilinus fasciatus* Bloch, *Naturges. ausland. Fische*, 5 : 18.

Material examined : 1, 143 mm, collected from Peel Island, South Andamans on 9.10.91.

Fin formula : D IX, 10 ; A III, 8 ; P 12 ; V I, 5 ; C 13 ; GR 3+6 ; LL 15+9 ; Ltr $1\frac{1}{2}/6$.

Distribution : Indo-west Pacific.

61. *Labroides dimidiatus* (Valenciennes, 1839)

1839. *Cossyphus dimidiatus* Valenciennes in Cuvier and Valenciennes, *Hist. nat. poiss.*, 13 : 136 (Mauritius).

1877. *Labroides dimidiatus* : Day, *Fishes of India* : 393.

Material examined : 1, 24 mm (30 mm TL), collected from Havelock Island, South Andamans on 9.10.91.

Fin formula : D IX, 11 ; A III, 10 ; P 13 ; V I, 5 ; LL 52 ; Ltr 3/16.

Distribution : Indo-Pacific.

62. *Scarus blochii* Valenciennes

1839. *Scarus blochii* Valenciennes in Cuvier and Valenciennes, *Hist. nat. poiss.*, 14 : 219.

Material examined : 1, 185 mm, collected from John Lawrence Island, South Andamans on 10.10.91.

Fin formula : D IX, 10 ; A III, 9 ; P ii, 13 ; V I, 5 ; GR 50 ; LL 18+7 ; Pre-dorsal scales 6.

Distribution : Seas of India, Malay Archipelago.

Remark : This is the first record of occurrence from Andaman and Nicobar Islands.

63. *Sphyraena forsteri* Cuvier, 1829

1829. *Sphyraena forsteri* Cuvier in Cuvier and Valenciennes, *Hist. nat. poiss.*, 3 : 261, 353 (Tahiti).

Material examined : 1, 136 mm, collected from Hut Bay, Little Andaman on 24.10.91.

Fin formula : D V+I, 9 ; A II, 9 ; P 14 ; LL 110 ; GR as spiny setae.

Distribution : Indo-Pacific.

64. *Istiblennius lineatus* (Valenciennes 1836)

1836. *Salarias lineatus* Valenciennes in Cuvier and Valenciennes, *Hist. nat. poiss.*, 11 : 314.

1984. *Istiblennius lineatus* : Bath in Fischer and Bianchi, *FAO species identification sheets for fishery purposes. W. Indian Ocean (Fishing Area 51)*. Blenniidae : 9.

Material examined : 19, 32-46 mm, collected from Panchavati, Rangath, Middle Andamans on 16.10.91.

Fin formula : D XIII, 22 ; A II, 23-24 ; P 14 ; V I, 3.

Distribution : Indo-west Pacific : from the Persian Gulf through India, the Philippines to Australia, Fiji, Samoa.

65. *Callionymus enneactis* Bleeker, 1879

1879. *Callionymus enneactis* Bleeker, *Versl. Akad. Amsterdam*, (2) 14 (1877) : 95.

Material examined : 1, 40 mm, collected from Havelock Island, South Andamans on 9.10.91.

Fin formula : D IV+8 ; A 7 ; P 17 ; V I, 5.

Distribution : Singapore, the Philippines, Pelew Island.

Remark : This is the first occurrence from Indian waters, reported elsewhere in detail.

66. *Callionymus filamentosus* Valenciennes, 1837

1837. *Callionymus filamentosus* Valenciennes in Cuvier and Valenciennes, *Hist. nat. poiss.*, 12: 303, pl. 359 (Celebes).

Material examined : 10, 41-81 mm, collected from Hut Bay, Little Andaman on 25.10.91.

Fin formula : D IV+9 ; A 9 ; P 20 ; V I, 5.

Distribution : Indo-west Pacific.

67. *Acentrogobius ornatus* (Ruppell, 1828)

1828. *Gobius ornatus* Ruppell, *Atl. Reise N. Afr. Fische* : 135.

1941. *Acentrogobius ornatus* : Koumans, *Mem. Indian Mus.*, 13 (3) : 231.

Material examined : 1, 64 mm, collected from Havelock Island, South Andamans on 9.10.91.

Fin formula : D VI+I, 10 ; A I, 9 ; P 22 ; V I, 5 ; GR 4 ; LL 28 ; Ltr 7 ; Pre-dorsal scales 10.

Distribution : Indo-west Pacific. eastwards to Fiji, Solomon Islands.

Remark : The specimen described here has more pectoral rays (22, against 19-20) and less lateral transverse scales (7, against 8 or 9).

68. *Bathygobius fuscus* (Ruppell, 1828)

1828. *Gobius fuscus* Ruppell, *Atl. Reise N. Afr. Fische* : 137 (Red sea).

1941. *Bathygobius fuscus* : Koumans, *Mem. Indian Mus.*, 13 (3) : 267.

Material examined : 9, 23-49 mm, collected from Rangath Bay, Middle Andamans on 15.10.91.

Fin formula : D VI+I, 9 ; A I, 8 ; P 19 ; V I, 5 ; GR 8 ; LL 38 ; Ltr 13 ;
Predorsal scales 22.

Distribution : Indo-Pacific : from east coast of Africa, through Malay Archipelago, islands in Pacific to America.

69. *Oplopomus caninoides* (Bleeker, 1852)

1852. *Gobius caninoides* Bleeker, *Nat. Tijdschr. Ned.-Indie*, 3 : 274.

1941. *Oplopomus caninoides* : Koumans, *Mem. Indian Mus.*, 13 (3) : 215.

Material examined : 15, 31-53 mm, collected from Hut Bay, Little Andamans on 25.10.91.

Fin formula : D VI+I, 10 ; A I, 10 ; P 17-18 ; V I, 5 ; GR 5+8 ; LL 30 ;
Ltr 9 ; **Predorsal scales** 12.

Distribution : Persian Gulf, Indo-Australian Archipelago, the Philippines.

70. *Waitea mystacina* (Valenciennes, 1837)

1837. *Gobius mystacinus* Valenciennes in Cuvier and Valenciennes, *Hist. nat. poiss.*, 12 : 124.

1941. *Waitea mystacina* : Koumans, *Fish. Indo-Aust. Archip.*, 10 : 107.

Material examined : 1, 43 mm, collected from Hut Bay, Little Andaman on 25.10.91.

Fin formula : D VI+I, 10 ; A I, 9 ; P 17 ; V I, 5 ; GR 3+15 ; LL 38 ; Ltr 15.

Distribution : East coast of Africa ; Malay Archipelago, the Philippines, Australia, Japan.

71. *Acanthurus matoides* Valenciennes, 1835

1835. *Acanthurus matoides* Valenciennes in Cuvier and Valenciennes, *Hist. nat. poiss.*, 10 : 204.

Material examined : 1, 28 mm, collected from Havelock Island, South Andamans on 14.10.91.

Fin formula : D IX, 25 ; AIII, 25 ; P 17 ; VI, 5 ; lower GR 14.

Distribution : Indo-west Pacific : from east coast of Africa to Hawaii in east, north to Japan, south to northern coast of Australia.

72. *Siganus canaliculatus* (Park, 1797)

1797. *Chaetodon canaliculatus* Park *Trans. Linn. Soc. Lond.*, 3 : 33 (Sumatra).

1984. *Siganus canaliculatus* : Talwar and Kacker, *Commercial Sea fishes of India* : 775, fig. 314.

Material examined : 1, 175 mm, collected from Neil Island, South Andamans on 12.10.91.

Fin formula : D XIII, 10 ; A VII, 9 ; P 16 ; V I, 3, I ; GR 5+16 ; Scale rows between lateral line and base of mid-dorsal spine 22.

Distribution : From the 'Gulf' along the coasts of India to the Indo-Malay Archipelago.

73. *Siganus guttatus* (Bloch, 1787)

1787. *Chaetodon guttatus* Bloch, *Naturges. ausland. Fische*, 3 : 55.

1951. *Siganus guttatus* : de Beaufort and Chapman, *Fish. Indo-Aust. Archip.*, 9 : 123.

Material examined : 2, 130 – 185 mm, collected from John Lawrence Island, South Andamans on 8.10.91.

Fin formula : D XIII, 10 ; A VII, 9 ; P 16 ; V I, 3, I ; GR (7 – 8) + (18 – 20) ; scale rows between lateral line and base of mid-dorsal spine 20-21.

Distribution : Indo-Malay Archipelago.

74. *Siganus spinus* (Linnaeus, 1758)

1758. *Sparus spinus* Linnaeus, *Syst. nat.* (ed. 10), 1 : 281.

1951. *Siganus spinus* : de Beaufort and Chapman, *Fish. Indo-Aust. Archip.*, 9 : 104, fig. 22.

Material examined : 3, 120 – 130 mm, collected from Kalapathar, Havelock Island, South Andamans on 5.10.91.

Fin formula : D XIII, 10 ; A VII, 9 ; P 16–17 ; V I, 3, I ; GR 5+18 ; Scale rows between lateral line and base of mid-dorsal spine 16.

Distribution : The 'Gulf', southern India, Sri Lanka, the Indo-Malay Archipelago coral reefs of Central and Western Pacific Ocean.

75. *Siganus virgatus* (Valenciennes, 1835)

1835. *Amphacanthus virgatus* Valenciennes in Cuvier and Valenciennes, *Hist. nat. poiss.*, 10 : 133.

1951. *Siganus virgatus* : de Beaufort and Chapman, *Fish. Indo-Aust. Archip.*, 9 : 113.

Material examined : 2, 32–171 mm, collected from John Lawrence Island, South Andamans on 8.10.91.

Fin formula : D XIII, 10 ; A VIII, 9 ; P 16 ; V I, 3, I ; GR 6+(16–17) ; scale rows between lateral line and base of mid dorsal spine 20.

Distribution : Southern India, the Indo-Malay Archipelago, Ryuku Islands, Irian Jaya, north-west Australia.

76. *Trichiurus lepturus* Linnaeus, 1758

1758. *Trichiurus lepturus* Linnaeus (*ex* Artedi), *Syst. Nat.* (ed. 10) : 246 (America and China).

Material examined : 1, 257 mm, collected from Yerata jetty, Rangath, Middle Andamans on 18.10.91.

Fin formula : D III, 130 ; A 104 ; P 12 ; GR 5+8.

Distribution : Throughout tropical and temperate waters of the world.

77. *Rastrelliger kanagurta* (Cuvier, 1816)

1816. *Scomber kanagurta* Cuvier, *Regne Anim.*, 2 : 313 (Vizagapatnam).

1951. *Rastrelliger kanagurta* : de Beaufort and Chapman, *Fish. Indo-Aust. Archip.*, 9 : 212, fig. 36.

Material examined : 1, 200 mm in fork length (FL), collected from Neil Island, South Andamans on 12.10.91 ; 1, 120 mm FL, collected from Hut Bay, Little Andaman on 25.10.91.

Fin formula : D VIII-X+I, 11+5 finlets ; A I, 11+5 finlets ; P 20 ; V I, 5 ; GR (15-18)+(33-39).

Distribution : Indo-west Pacific.

78. *Engyprosopon grandisquama* (Temminck and Schlegel, 1846)

1846. *Rhombus grandisquama* Temminck and Schlegel, *Fauna Japonica*, Pisces : 183, pl. 92, fig. 3 and 4 (Nagasaki, Japan).

1986. *Engyprosopon grandisquama* : Hensley in Smith and Heemstra, *Smith's Sea fishes*, Bothidae : 858, fig. 259-8.

Material examined : 1, 85 mm, collected from Hut Bay, Little Andaman on 25.10.91.

Fin formula : D 86 ; A 63 ; P sup. 11 ; P dext. 9 ; V 6 ; LL 45 ; GR 0+6.

Distribution : Indo-west Pacific.

Remark : This is the first record of occurrence from Andaman and Nicobar Islands, reported elsewhere in detail.

79. *Cynoglossus arel* (Schneider, 1801)

1801. *Pleuronectes arel* Schneider, *Syst. Ichth. Bloch* : 159 (Tranquebar, India).

1984. *Cynoglossus arel* : Talwar and Kacker, *Commercial sea fishes of India* : 873, fig. 359.

Material examined : 1, 111 mm, collected from Neil Island, south Andamans on 18.10.91.

Fin formula : D 116 ; A 96 ; V 4 ; C 10 ; LL 72 ; scale rows between two LL 7.

Distribution : From the 'Gulf' through the seas of India to the Philippines, Indonesia.

80. *Cynoglossus lida* (Bleeker, 1861)

1851. *Plagusia lida* Bleeker, *Nat. Tijdschr. Ned.-Indie*, 1 : 413 (Batavia).

1984. *Cynoglossus lida* : Talwar and Kacker, *Commercial sea fishes of India* : 879, fig. 364.

Material examined : 1, 126 mm, collected from Hut Bay, Little Andaman on 25.10.91.

Fin formula : D 98 ; A 84 ; V 4 ; C 10 ; LL 85 ; scale rows between two LL 12.

Distribution : Widespread in tropical Indo-west Pacific.

81. *Paraplagusia bilineata* (Bloch, 1787)

1787. *Pleuronectes bilineata* Bloch, *Naturges, ausland. Fische*, 3 : 29, pl. 188 (Chinese waters).

1928. *Paraplagusia bilineata* : Norman, *Rec. Indian Mus.*, 30 : 191, fig. 9.

Material examined : 1, 81 mm, collected from Hut Bay, Little Andaman on 25.10.91.

Fin formula : D 110 ; A 87 ; V 4 ; LL 100 ; scale rows between two LL 17.

Distribution : Widespread in tropical Indo-west Pacific.

82. *Zebrias quagga* (Kaup, 1858)

1858. *Aesopia quagga* Kaup, *Archiv. Naturges.* : 98.

1928. *Zebrias quagga* : Norman, *Rec. Indian Mus.*, 30 : 184, pl. 6.

Material examined : 4, 61-81 mm, collected from Hut Bay, Little Andaman on 25.10.91.

Fin formula : D 67-68 ; A 56-60 ; P sin. 11 ; P dext. 8 ; V 5 ; C 16 ; LL 90-94.

Distribution : From Red Sea through coasts of India to Malay Archipelago, China.

83. *Paramonacanthus choirocephalus* (Bleeker, 1852)

1852. *Monacanthus choirocephalus* Bleeker, *Verh. Batav. Gen.*, 24 : 11, 19.

1955. *Paramonacanthus choirocephalus* : Munro, *The marine and freshwater fishes of Ceylon*: 274, pl. 53, fig. 799.

Material examined : 2, 62-63 mm, collected from Havelock Island, South Andamans on 9.10.91.

Fin formula : D II+27-28 ; A 29-30 ; P 12 ; C 12.

Distribution : Sri Lanka, eastern coast of India, Thailand, Sumatra, Java, Celebes.

84. *Pseudotriacanthus striglifer* (Cantor, 1849)

1849. *Triacanthus striglifer* Cantor, *Journ. Asiat. Soc. Bengal*, 18 (2) : 1345 (Sea of Pinang).

1955. *Pseudotriacanthus striglifer* : Munro, *The marine and freshwater fishes of Ceylon* : 273, pl. 54, fig. 794.

Material examined : 1, 82 mm, collected from Hut Bay, Little Andaman on 25.10.91.

Fin formula : D V+22 ; A 16 ; P 13 ; V I.

Distribution : From the Gulf of Oman through India to Indonesia, the Philippines.

85. *Lactoria cornuta* (Linnaeus, 1758)

1758. *Ostracion cornutus* Linnaeus, *Syst. Nat.* (ed. 10) : 331 (India).

1955. *Lactoria cornuta* : Munro, *The marine and freshwater fishes of Ceylon* : 277, pl. 54, fig. 807.

Material examined : 1, 29 mm, collected from Hut Bay, Little Andaman on 25.10.91.

Fin formula : D 9 ; A 9 ; P 11 ; C 10.

Distribution : Widespread in Indo-west Pacific.

86. *Lagocephalus scleratus* (Forster, 1789)

1789. *Tetraodon scleratus* Forster in Gmelin, *Syst. Nat.* (ed. 13) (1788), 1 (3) : 1444 (American and Pacific Oceans).

1986. *Lagocephalus scleratus* : Smith and Heemstra, *Smith's Sea fishes, Tetraodontidae* : 901 pl. 144, fig. 268-23.

Material examined : 2, 66-98 mm, collected from Hut Bay, Little Andaman on 24/25.10.91.

Fin formula : D 11 ; A 9-11 ; P 16.

Distribution : Widespread in Indo-west Pacific.

ZOOGEOGRAPHICAL REMARKS

The range of distribution of the species in analysis has been investigated to throw more light on the zoogeographical affinities of the fish fauna of Andaman waters. The samples in collection have been arranged in five groups according to zoogeographical relations.

Of the 86 species reported here, three species (3.5%) viz. *Fistularia petimba* Lacepede, *Selar crumenophthalmus* (Bloch) and *Trichiurus lepturus* Linnaeus are circumtropical (Group I) in distribution. Fifty two species (60.5%) are widely distributed in the Indo-west Pacific region (Group II), ranging from east coast of Africa to the Philippines or even extended beyond eastwardly, north to Japan, south to Queensland. Of these fifty two species, *Ambasis urotaenia* Bleeker, *Apogonichthys perdix* Bleeker, *Scolopsis bilineatus* (Bloch) and *Waitea mystacina* Valenciennes are found only in and around reef islands of the Indian Ocean and Western Pacific indicating their insular origin and evolution around coral reefs of the Malay Archipelago. Twenty eight species (32.5%) are spread over the Indo-Polynesian province (Group III), i.e. from the coasts of the Indian subcontinent and/or extended up to the Gulf of Oman in the west to Malay Archipelago or beyond in the east, of which only *Caranx carangus* (Bloch) is found also in tropical Atlantic. Two species (2.3%), viz. *Scolopsis ciliatus* (Lacepede) and *Callionymus enneactis* Bleeker are restricted to Malay Archipelago and islands of Western Pacific Ocean (Group IV).

Ekman (1953) considered Malay Archipelago to be the richest faunistic centre and most of the shore fauna of Indo-west Pacific region have evolved at this centre. Andaman and Nicobar Islands, geomorphologically similar to the Malay Archipelago, being situated on the outcrops of north-western continuation of the Java ridge are separated from the Indian subcontinent by wide and deep ocean floor of the Bay of Bengal. Hence, by every conjecture the fish fauna shows semblance to that of Malay Archipelago excepting *Nemipterus randalli* Russell which is basically a western Indian Ocean (Group V) species.

SUMMARY

In all, eighty six species of fishes collected during the survey tour to South and Middle Andaman group of Islands in October, 1991 have been studied and a systematic account of the same is given. This includes two records for Indian waters and eight new records for Andaman waters. A brief zoogeographical discussion of the fishes in the collection is also included.

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