

ON A COLLECTION OF FISH FROM NORTH BENGAL

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INTRODUCTION

North Bengal comprises those districts of West Bengal which lie north to the Ganga. The term does not denote any natural division and is purely an administrative connotation. Five districts constitute North Bengal. These are: Malda, W. Dinajpur, Darjeeling, Jalpaiguri and Cooch-Behar. Faunistically however, this area is very rich, especially the piscine populations inhabiting this area are numerous in variety and taxonomically interesting. This may be because of the rich Himalayan foot-hills with the numerous streams and major rivers rushing to the plains through these districts. The chief rivers are the Mahananda, and Teesta with many tributaries such as Sevoke, Atrai, Jaldhaka, Karala, Karotoyar etc.

The most comprehensive account of the fish fauna of North Bengal was published by Shaw and Shebbeare in 1938 which continue to remain as a constant source of reference and use by ichthyologists and fishery workers. Shaw and Shebbeare (1938) listed 131 species in their treatise. Hora and Gupta (1941) reporting on a small collection from Kalimpong Duars and Siliguri Terai added 2 species to this list. Subsequent to this there seems to be no report of any fish collection from North Bengal.

With a view mainly to collect specimens of two elusive bagrid species, *Pimelodus rama* Hamilton and *Pimelodus chandramara* Hamilton the authors undertook a survey of the North Bengal rivers in February, 1970. Not only it has been possible to collect material of the aforesaid curious bagrids, but also adequate representative collection of other fishes have also been made. This report lists 96 species, of which 17 have not been reported by previous workers. It must however be stated,

that common species such as the major carps, large sized catfishes such as *A. aor* (Hamilton), *A. seenghala* (Sykes) etc., though noticed, were not deliberately collected.

In the systematic account given here, under synonymy the first reference together with the type locality is given. Wherever necessary, the most recent important reference to the concerned species has also been added. Notes on variations noticed on some species have been given. The arrangement of the taxa upto family level is as per Greenwood, Rosen, Myers & Weitzman (1966).

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Class : PISCES
Cohort : TAENIOPAEDIA
Superorder : CLUPEOMORPHA
Order : CLUPEIFORMES
Suborder : CLUPEOIDEI
Family I CLUPEIDAE

1. *Goniolosa manmina* (Hamilton)

1822. *Clupanodon manmina* Hamilton, *Fish. Ganges*, pp. 247, 249 (type locality, most of the freshwater branches of the Ganges).

Material. —3 exs., Stn. 5, confluence of R. Tengan with Mahananda at Aihoo village, 16 km S. E. of Malda, North Bengal, 1. ii. 1970.

Distribution. —Indian: Ganga, Jamuna, Brahmaputra and Mahanadi rivers, their affluents and main streams; Pakistan: Sind, Karachi, Makran. Bangladesh; Known to enter estuaries and tanks.

2. *Gudusia chapra* (Hamilton)

1822. *Clupanodon chapra* Hamilton, *Fish. Ganges*, pp. 248, 383 (type locality, upper parts of Ganges).

Material. —3 exs., Stn. 18, Atrai river, Balurghat, 12. ii. 1970; 3 exs., Stn. 20, Jalpaiguri fish market, purchased, 14. ii. 1970.

Distribution. —India: throughout as far south as Krishna river, but absent from Kerala and Tamil Nadu; Pakistan: Sind; Bangladesh; Malaysia: Penang.

Remarks. —Of the six examples, the first lot from River Atrai at Balurghat, measuring 67 to 83 mm. in standard length, has a dark shoulder spot, whereas the second lot from Jalpaiguri do not have any

such marking. Further, the dorsal profile upto the lateral line is dark shaded in the first lot, unlike the second. Day (1878) also observed that the shoulder spot may be absent.

Family II ENGRAULIDAE

3. *Setipinna phasa* (Ham.)

1822. *Clupea phasa* Hamilton, *Fish. Ganges*, pp. 240, 382 (type locality, brackish rivers of Bengal).

Material.—9 exs., Stn. 5, confluence of River Tengan with Mahananda river at Aihoo village, 16 km S.E. of Malda, 1. ii. 1970.

Distribution.—India: Orissa, Bengal, Assam; Pakistan; Bangladesh; Burma.

Remarks.—The prolongation of the outermost pectoral fin ray is variable in this species. In four examples 109 to 115 mm. in standard length, the outermost pectoral ray reaches the commencement of the anal fin. But in an example 77 mm. in standard length, the outermost ray is vestigial. In a few, all the pectoral fin rays are completely stained black.

Cohart : ARCHAEOPHYLACES

Superorder : OSTEOGLOSSOMORPHA

Suborder : NOTOPTEROIDEI

Family III NOTOPTERIDAE

4. *Notopterus (Notopterus) notopterus* Pallas

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

Material.—1 ex., Stn. 4, Kenpukur fish 'hat', catch from Purnabhasa river, 31. i. 1970; 1 ex., Stn. 6, Aihoo Village 'hat', 1. ii. 1970.

Distribution.—India: throughout. Pakistan; Burma, Thailand; Malaya and Malay Archipelago.

Cohart : EUTELEOSTEI

Superorder : OSTARIOPHYSI

Order : CYPRINIFORMES

Suborder : CYPRINOIDEI

Family IV CYPRINIDAE

5. *Chela (Chela) cachius* Hamilton

1822. *Cyprinus cachius* Hamilton, *Fish. Ganges*, pp. 258, 384. (type locality, River Ganga, about the commencement of the delta).

1958. *Chela (Chela) cachius*, Silas, *J. Bombay nat. Hist. Soc.*, 55 (1) : 66 (synonymy, description, specific limits).

Material.—39 exs., Stn. 20, Jalpaiguri fish market, purchased, 14. ii. 1970; 10 exs., Stn. 26, below Road bridge of River Dharla at Changrabandha, 40 km S.E. of Jaipauri, 16. ii. 1970.

Distribution.—India: Orissa, W. Bengal, Assam, Madhya Pradesh, Tamil Nadu, Mysore; Pakistan; Bangladesh; Burma.

Remarks.—Silas (1958) in a valuable revision of this genus restricted the genus *Chela sensu stricto* as comprising only two species in India: viz. *C. cachius* Hamilton and *C. laubuca*. He also indicated that *C. atpar* represents adult specimens of *C. cachius* which renders the former a synonym of the latter, as *cachius* has priority over *atpar*.

This species was not reported by Shaw & Shebbeare (1938).

6. *Oxygaster bacaila* (Hamilton)

1822. *Cyprinus bacaila* Hamilton, *Fish Ganges*, pp. 265, 384, pl. 8, fig. 76 (type locality, freshwater rivers of all Gangetic provinces).
1958. *Oxygaster bacaila*, Silas, *J. Bombay nat. Hist. Soc.*, 55 (1) : 61 (key to genus).

Material.—4 exs., Stn. 5, confluence of River Tengan with River Mahananda at Aihoo village, 10 km S.E. of Malda, 1. ii. 1970; 1 ex., Stn. 10, River Kalindri at village Ratua, 38 Km N. W. to Malda, 4. ii. 1970; 5 exs., Stn. 11, River Mahananda at Malda Town, 5. ii. 1970; 20 exs., Stn. 14, River Jamuna at Hilli village, 24 Km N.E. of Balurghat, 8. ii. 1970; 2 exs., Stn. 15, River Purnabhasa at Gangarampur near road bridge, 42 km NW to Balurghat, 9. ii. 1970; 1 ex., Stn. 16, River Atrai at Pugleegunj, 10 km North of Balurghat, 10. ii. 1970; 5 exs., Stn. 18, River Atrai at Balurghat, 12. ii. 1970; 11 exs. Stn. 20, Jalpaiguri fish market, purchased, 14. ii. 1970; 7 exs., Stn. 24, River Teesta, Western bank at Teesta bridge, 12 km N.E. of Jalpaiguri, on Assam Trunk Road, 15. ii. 1970.

Distribution.—India: North of Krishna river system; Pakistan, W. Punjab; Bangladesh.

Remarks.—Silas (1958) differentiated *Oxygaster* and *Chela* on basis of the extension of the predorsal scales to the interorbital space and the symphysial knob in the lower jaw fitting into a corresponding emargination of the upper jaw in the former. In a random examination of 36 examples measuring 20 to 130 mm. in standard length, excepting in one example of 130 mm. length, in all the remaining, the predorsal scales do not extend upto the interorbital space, although in all of them the symphysial knob clearly fits into the upper jaw. It cannot be definitely stated that this condition is common in all, or this variation is due to the comparatively juvenile nature of the specimens examined. As Silas (1958) stated, this genus is badly in need of a revision.

7. *Oxygaster gora* (Hamilton)

1822. *Cyprinus gora* Hamilton, *Fish. Ganges*, pp. 263, 384 (type locality, Ganges and its tributaries).

Material.—9 exs., Stn. 20, Jalpaiguri fish market, purchased 14. ii. 1970.

Distribution.—India: north of Mahanadi river system; Pakistan, W. Punjab; Bangladesh.

Remarks.—Shaw and Shebbeare (1938) did not record this species in their work.

8. *Barilius bendelisis bendelisis* (Hamilton)

1807. *Cyprinus bendelisis* Hamilton, *Journey Mysore*, 3, 345, pl. 32 (type locality, rivers of Mysore).

Material.—1 ex., Stn. 22, River Karotayar at Chawalhatti village 32 km S.W. of Jalpaiguri, 15. ii. 1970; 2 exs., Stn. 23, River Panga at Pangasahitpura, 25 km. south of Jalpaiguri; 19 exs., Stn. 24, River Teesta, Western bank at Teesta Bridge, 12 Km N.E. of Jalpaiguri, 15. ii. 1970; 5 exs., Stn. 32, River Balasan at Digana near Panighata, 32 km N.W. of Siliguri, 21. ii. 1970.

Distribution.—India: throughout; Pakistan: W. Punjab. Bangladesh; Sri Lanka.

Remarks.—The number of bands and black dots at base of each scale varies with the size of the specimens. In a 12 mm long juvenile, 8 or 9 bands are present with the black dots well marked. But in specimens 37 to 53 mm in standard length, the bands are 6 to 8 and along with the spots at base of each scale they tend to become faint.

Shaw and Shebbeare (1938) did not record this species in their treatise.

9. *Barilius bendelisis chedra* (Hamilton)

1822. *Cyprinus chedra* Hamilton, *Fish. Ganges*, p. 273, 274 (type locality, Patgong).

1937. *Barilius bendelisis* Var. *chedra*, Shaw & Shebbeare, *J. Roy. Asiat. Soc. Beng.*, 3, p. 23.

Material.—1 ex., Stn. 32, River Balasan at Digana near Panighata, 32 Km N.W. of Siliguri, 21. ii. 1970.

Distribution.—India: Ganga, Jamuna and Brahmaputra river systems.

Remarks.—The single example of this remarkable subspecies, 91 mm long, is characteristic with 14 bands, but the black dots at the base of the scales are so numerous, bright, that the bands are obliterated

unlike the nominate species. The pectoral fins are large, with the axillary process well developed. Many pores are also present on the snout above the mouth.

10. *Barilius barna* (Hamilton)

1822. *Cyprinus bendelisis* Hamilton, *Fish. Ganges*, pp. 270, 385 (type locality, Rivers of Mysore).

Material.—22 exs., Stn. 28, River Dharla at Mainaguri, 16 Km N.E. of Jalpaiguri near Road bridge, 11. ii. 1970; 2 exs., Stn. 30, Khoribari fish hat, 45 Km S. W. of Siliguri, 20. ii. 1970.

Distribution.—India: Orissa, Madhya Pradesh, U.P., Bihar, W. Bengal, Assam; Pakistan; Bangladesh.

Remarks.—The number of bands vary from 6 or 7 to 9 or 10. The frequency distribution is as below:

6 or 7	8	9 or 10	13
15 ex.	15 ex.	2 ex.	2 ex.
25-36 mm.	26-54 mm.	38 and 47 mm.	30 mm.

Standard length. Standard length. Standard length. Standard length.

Three examples 13 to 25 mm in standard length have no bands at all. In a specimen there are seven bands on one side and eight on the opposite side. As stated by Motwani, Jayaram & Sehgal (1962) nuptial tubercles are present in one specimen 93 mm long.

11. *Barilius barila* Hamilton

1822. *Barilius barila* Hamilton, *Fish. Ganges*, pp. 267, 384 (type locality, rivers of Northern Bengal).

Material.—5 exs., Stn. 11, River Mahananda, at Malda Town, 5. ii. 1970; 8 exs., Stn. 20, Jalpaiguri fish market, purchased, 14. ii. 1970; 6 exs., Stn. 24, River Teesta Western Bank at Teesta Bridge, 12 Km N.E. of Jalpaiguri, 15. ii. 1970.

Distribution.—India: throughout except Kerala, Tamil Nadu. Pakistan. Bangladesh.

12. *Danio (Danio) aequipinnatus* (McClelland)

1839. *Perilampus aequipinnatus* McClelland, *Asiatic Researches*, 12, p. 3, pl. 60, fig. 11 (type locality, Assam).

Material.—2 exs., Stn. 26, River Dharla at Changrabandha, 40 km S.E. of Jalpaiguri below Road bridge, 16. ii. 1970.

Distribution.—India: Peninsular India, W. Bengal, Assam, Manipur, Eastern Himalaya. Pakistan; Bangladesh; Burma, Thailand; Sri Lanka.

13. *Danio (Danio) devario* (Hamilton)

1822. *Cyprinus devario* Hamilton, *Fish. Ganges*, pp. 341, 393, pl. 6, fig. 94 (type locality, Rivers and ponds of Bengal).

Material.—1 ex., Stn., 14, River Jamuna at Hilli village, 24 Km N.E. to Balurghat, 8. ii. 1970; 8 exs., Stn. 20, Jalpaiguri fish market, purchased, 14. ii. 1970; 22 exs., Stn. 22, River Karotayar at Chawal hatti, 32 Km S.W. of Jalpaiguri, 15. ii. 1970; 8 exs., Stn. 24, River Teesta, Western Bank at Teesta Bridge, 12 Km N.E. of Jalpaiguri, 15. ii. 1970; 2 exs., Stn. 26, River Dharla at Changrabhandha, 40 Km S. E. of Jalpaiguri, 16. ii. 1970; 2 exs., Stn. 27, River Jaldhaka at Charuchurabhandar, 28 Km. N.E. of Jalpaiguri, below road bridge, 16. ii. 1970; 24 exs., Stn. 28, R. Dharla at Mainaguri, 16 Km N.E. of Jalpaiguri, 16. ii. 1970; 3 exs., Stn. 30, Jalpaiguri fish market, purchased, 18. ii. 1970.

Distribution.—India: whole of North India upto Orissa. Pakistan: W. Punjab, Sind. Bangladesh.

Remarks.—Some variations in the colour pattern are noticed. The examples from Stn. 28, 38 to 56 mm. in standard length do not have the reticulated steel-blue lines in anterior part of body as described by Day (1878). All have a dark streak along mid-line of body, posterior to anal fin.

14. *Danio (Brachydanio) rerio* (Hamilton)

1822. *Cyprinus rerio* Hamilton, *Fish. Ganges*, pp. 323, 390 (type locality, Kosi river).

Material.—20 exs., Stn. 27, River Jaldhaka at Charuchurabhandar, 28 Km N.E. of Jalpaiguri, below road bridge, 16. ii. 1970.

Distribution.—India: throughout.

15. *Esomus danrica* (Hamilton)

1822. *Cyprinus danrica* Hamilton, *Fish. Ganges*, pp. 325, 327, pl. 16, fig. 88 (type locality, ponds and ditches of Bengal).

Material.—1 ex., Stn. 27, River Jaldhaka at Charuchurabhandar, 28 Km. of Jalpaiguri, below road bridge, 16. ii. 1970.

Distribution.—India: throughout. Pakistan: Sind, W. Punjab; Burma; Thailand; Malaya; Sri Lanka; Bangladesh.

16. *Rasbora daniconius* (Hamilton)

1822. *Cyprinus daniconius* Hamilton, *Fish. Ganges*, pp. 327, 329. (type locality, rivers of Southern Bengal).

Material. —1 ex., Stn. 5, confluence of River Tengan with Mahananda at Aihoo village, 25 Km S.E. of Malda, 1. ii. 1970; 2 exs., Stn. 10, River Kalindri at village Ratua 38 Km N.W. of Malda, 4. ii. 1970; 4 exs., Stn. 11, R. Mahananda, Malda Town, 5. ii. 1970; 1 ex., Stn. 14, River Jamuna at Hilli village, 38 Km N.E. of Balurghat, 8. ii. 1970; 6 exs., Stn. 16, River Atrai at Pugleegunj, 10 Km North of Balurghat, 10. ii. 1970; 4 exs., Stn. 18, River Atrai at Balurghat, 12. ii. 1970; 9 exs., Stn. 20, Jalpaiguri fish market, purchased, 14. ii. 1970; 5 exs., Stn. 28, 2 exs., Stn. 26, River Dharla at Changrabhandha, 40 Km S.E. of Jalpaiguri, 16. ii. 1970; 5 exs., Stn. 28, River Dharla at Mainaguri, 16 Km N.E. of Jalpaiguri near road bridge, 16. ii. 1970; 2 exs., Stn. 29, Bagdogra fish market, purchased, 19. ii. 1970.

Distribution. —India: throughout. Pakistan: Sind, W. Punjab. Sri Lanka; Malaya; Bangladesh.

Remarks. —A most common widely distributed species, but perhaps divisible on colour patterns. In the material examined by us, four different categories of colour patterns are seen.

- (a) Black stripe only towards posterior end beginning from above insertion of anal fin or slightly ahead. The lots representing this pattern are: 1 ex., Stn. 5, 53 mm standard length; 6 exs., Stn. 20, 38 to 58 mm. long; 1 ex., Stn. 10, 48 mm. long. One of these, 57 mm long is abnormally lean with compression of the body near vent.
- (b) A broad bright stripe, body brownish, superiorly spotted with some dots as in *Barilius*. The lots showing this pattern are 4 exs., Stn. 11, 64. 5 to 72 mm long; 1 ex., Stn. 14, 46 mm long.
- (c) A completely black band along mid line of body. Body brownish, scales not coloured: 2 exs., from Stn. 26, 36 and 50 mm long exhibit this pattern.
- (d) A black band along mid line of body, but body olive or brownish-black with scales also black tipped. Six examples from Stn. 16, 44 to 52 mm long, have this pattern.

17. *Amblypharyngodon mola* (Hamilton)

1822. *Cyprinus mola* Hamilton, *Fish. Ganges*, pp. 334, 392, pl. 38, fig. 92 (type locality, Ponds and freshwater rivers in every part of the Gangetic provinces).

Material. —1 ex., Stn. 2, River Tengan at Bulbulchandi, 31. i. 1970; 3 exs., Stn. 30, Khoribari fish market, purchased, 20. ii. 1970.

Distribution. —India: throughout except Kerala. Pakistan: Sind, W. Punjab. Bangladesh; Burma; Thailand.

18. *Aspidoparia morar* (Hamilton)

1822. *Cyprinus morar* Hamilton, *Fish. Ganges*, pp. 264, 381, pl. 31, fig. 75 (type locality, Rivers Yamuna and Teesta: two large, but distinct branches of Ganges)

Material. —2 exs., Stn. 2, River Tengan, at Bulbulchandi, 31. i. 1970; Many exs., Stn. 8, River Kalindri at Kotwalee village, 9 Km N.W. of Malda, 2. ii. 1970; 5 exs., Stn. 14, River Jamuna at Hilli village 8. ii. 1970; 4 exs., Stn. 18, River Atrai at Balurghat, 12. ii. 1970; 10 exs. Stn. 20, Jalpaiguri fish market, purchased, 14. ii. 1970; 5 exs., Stn. 24 River Teesta, Western bank at Teesta bridge, 12 Km. N.E. of Jalpaiguri, 15. ii. 1970.

Distribution. —India: throughout except West Coast, and south of Krishna river system; Bangladesh; Burma; Thailand.

19. *Chagunius chagunio* (Hamilton)

1822. *Cyprinus chagunio* Hamilton, *Fish. Ganges*, pp. 295, 387 (type locality, Yamuna and in the northern rivers of Bihar and Bengal).

Material. —3 exs., Stn. 24. River Teesta, Western Bank at Teesta Bridge, 12 Km. N.E. of Jalpaiguri, 15. ii. 1970.

Distribution. —India: North India above Orissa; Pakistan; Burma; Thailand; Bangladesh.

20. *Tor putitora* (Hamilton)

1822. *Cyprinus putitora* Hamilton, *Fish. Ganges*, pp. 303, 388 (type locality, eastern part of Bengal).

Material. —4 exs., Stn. 24, River Teesta, Western Bank at Teesta Bridge, 12 Km. N.E. of Jalpaiguri, 15. ii. 1970; 2 exs., Stn. 32, River Balasan at Digana, near Panighata, 32 Km N. W. of Siliguri, 21.ii.1970.

Distribution. —India: Himalayan rivers especially along the foot hills, Nepal, U.P., E. Punjab, W. Bengal, Assam. Bangladesh.

21. *Puntius ambassis* (Day)

1868. *Barbus ambassis* Day, *Proc. zool Soc. Lond.*, p. 583 (type locality Kurnool).

Material. —1 ex., Stn. 20, Jalpaiguri fish market, purchased, 14. ii. 1970.

Distribution. —India: along the eastern side, from Tamil Nadu through Orissa, Bengal and Assam upto Sadiya; Bangladesh.

22. *Puntius chola* (Hamilton)

1822. *Cyprinus chola* Hamilton, *Fish. Ganges*, pp. 312, 389 (type locality, Ponds and other stagnant waters in Northern parts of Bengal).

Material. —2 exs., Stn. 26, River Dharla at Changrabhandha, 40 Km S.E. of Jalpaiguri below Road Bridge, 16. ii. 1970.

Distribution —India: throughout; Pakistan; Bangladesh.

Remarks. —Shaw and Shebbeare (1938) did not record this species.

23. *Puntius conchoni* (Hamilton)

1822. *Cyprinus conchoni* Hamilton, *Fish. Ganges*, pp. 317, 389 (type locality; Ponds of north-east Bengal and in the river Kosi).

Material. —4 exs., Stn. 11, River Mahananda at Malda, 5. ii. 1970; 6 exs., Stn. 20, Jalpaiguri fish market, purchased, 14. ii. 1970; 1 ex., Stn. 24, River Teesta on Western bank, at Teesta Bridge, 12 Km. North, of Jalpaiguri, 15. ii. 1970; 5 exs., Stn. 28, River Dharla at Mainaguri 16 Km. N.E. of Jalpaiguri near road bridge, 16. ii. 1970.

Distribution. —India: throughout; Pakistan; Bangladesh.

Remarks. —In most of the examples studied the dorsal spine is serrated along the inner edge with 12 to 20 downward facing serrations. Day (1878) observed that the specimens from the plains are more coarsely serrated than those from the hills.

24. *Puntius cosuatis* (Hamilton)

1822. *Cyprinus cosuatis* Hamilton, *Fish. Ganges*, pp. 338, 392 (type locality, Nathpur).

Material. —45 exs., Stn. 28, River Dharla at Mainaguri, 16 Km. N.E. of Jalpaiguri near road bridge, 16. ii. 1970.

Distribution. —India: South India, W. Bengal, Assam; Bangladesh.

Remarks. —Shaw and Shebbeare (1938) did not record this species. The number of scales between lateral line and base of dorsal fin is 2 in 4 examples and 3 in 8 examples. The number of predorsal scales is 7 in 8 examples and 8 in 4 examples.

25. *Puntius phutunio* (Hamilton)

1822. *Cyprinus phutunio* Hamilton, *Fish. Ganges.*, pp. 319, 390 (type locality, Pirgunj).

Material. —2 exs., Stn. 18, River Atri at Balurghat, 12. ii. 1970; 9 exs., Stn. 20, Jalpaiguri fish market; purchased 14. ii. 1970.

Distribution. —India: along eastern parts from Orissa, through W. Bengal to Assam; Burma; Pakistan; Bangladesh.

Remarks. —In nine examples from Jalpaiguri fish market, the dorsal band is not split as spots but is in the form of a clear continuous band; but the band on the pectoral fins are absent. These may be due to the juvenile nature of the specimens.

26. *Puntius sarana* (Hamilton)

1822. *Cyprinus sarana* Hamilton, *Fish. Ganges.*, pp. 307, 388 (type locality, ponds and rivers of India).

Material. —1 ex., Stn. 4, River Purnabhava at Kenpukur village, 16 Km. S.E. of Malda, 31. i. 1970.

Distribution. —India: throughout; Pakistan; Burma. Thailand; Sri Lanka; China.

27. *Puntius sophore* (Hamilton)

1822. *Cyprinus sophore* Hamilton, *Fish. Ganges.*, pp. 310, 389 (type locality, ponds of Bengal).

Material. —2 exs., Stn. 10, River Kalindri at village Ratua, 38 Km. N.W. of Malda, 4. ii. 1970; 1 ex., Stn. 24, River Teesta, Western bank at Teesta Bridge, 12 Km. N.E. of Jalpaiguri, 15. ii. 1970; 10 exs., Stn. 26, River Dharla at Changrabhanda, 40 Km. S. E. of Jalpaiguri, 16. ii. 1970; 4 exs., Stn. 27, River Jaldhaka at Charuchurabhandar, 28 Km. N.E. of Jalpaiguri below Road bridge, 16.ii.1970.

Distribution. —India: throughout, below 600 metres; Pakistan: throughout; Bangladesh; Burma; China.

Remarks. —Shaw and Shebbeare (1938) did not record this species.

28. *Puntius stigma* (Valenciennes)*

1841. *Leuciscus stigma* Valenciennes, *Hist. Nat. Poiss.*, 17, p. 93, pl. 489 (type locality),

Material. —21 exs., Stn. 14, River Jamuna at Hilli village, 24 Km. N.E. of Balurghat, 8. ii. 1970; 3 exs., Stn. 18, River Atrai at Balurghat. 12. ii. 1970; 1 ex., Stn. 20, Jalpaiguri fish market, purchased, 14. ii. 1970; 1 ex., Stn. 24, River Teesta, Western bank at Teesta Bridge, 12 Km. N.E. of Jalpaiguri, 15. ii. 1970.

Distribution. —India: throughout; Pakistan; Bangladesh; Burma.

29. *Puntius ticto* (Hamilton)

1822. *Cyprinus ticto* Hamilton, *Fish. Ganges*, pp. 314, 389, pl. 8, fig. 87 (type locality, Southeast part of Bengal).

Material. —3 exs., Stn. 20, Jalpaiguri fish market, 14. ii. 1970; 1 ex., Stn. 25, rain water pools, eastern bank of River Teesta Bridge 12 Km. N.E. of Jalpaiguri, 15. ii. 1970; 2 exs., Stn. 26, River Dharla at

* MENON, A. G. K. 1974 *Spl. Publi. No. 1 Inland Fisheries Soc. India, Barrackpore*, p. 40 considers this species as Synonym of *P. sophorek*.

Changrabhandha, 40 Km. S.E. of Jalpaiguri, 16. ii. 1970; 48 exs., Stn. 28, River Dharla at Mainaguri, 16 Km N.E. of Jalpaiguri, near road bridge, 16. ii. 1970.

Distribution.—Throughout India; Pakistan; Bangladesh; Burma; Thailand; Sri Lanka.

Remarks.—The specimens from Stn. 28, River Dharla at Mainaguri, exhibit some variation in respect of the colour spot on the shoulder. Some have a clear black dot, round in shape, but in some the spot is smudged, and elongated. In these examples, the pectoral fin rays and the dorsal fin rays are also prolonged. These are probably due to sexual-dimorphism.

30. *Puntius titius* (Hamilton)

1822. *Cyprinus titius* Hamilton, *Fish. Ganges*, p. 315 (type locality, ponds near Calcutta.)

Material.—7 exs., Stn. 2, Bulbulchandi fish market, Malda dist; purchased, 31. i. 1970; 2 exs., Stn. 7, Malda fish market, purchased, 2. ii. 1970; 1 ex., Stn. 22, River Karotoyar at Chawal Hatti village, 32 Km. S.W. of Jalpaiguri, 15. ii. 1970.

Distribution.—India: Deccan, Orissa, Bengal, Assam; Bangladesh.

31. *Cirrihinus reba* (Hamilton)

1822. *Cyprinus reba* Hamilton, *Fish. Ganges*, pp. 280, 386 (type locality, rivers and ponds of Bengal and Bihar).

Material.—4 exs., Stn. 5, confluence of River Tengan with River Mahananda at Aihoo village, 16 Km S.E. of Malda, 1. ii. 1970; 4 exs., Stn. 11, River Mahananda at Malda, 5. ii. 1970; 2 exs., Stn. 14, River Jamuna at Hilli village, 24 Km. N.E. of Balurghat, 8. ii. 1970; 5 exs., Stn. 16, River Atrai at Pugleegunj, 10 Km north of Balurghat, 10. ii. 1970.

Distribution.—Throughout India; Pakistan; Bangladesh.

32. *Garra annandalei* Hora

1921. *Garra annandalei* Hora, *Rec. Indian Mus.*, 22, p. 657 (type locality, Assam).

Material.—13 exs., Stn. 32, River Balasan at Digana near Panighata, 32 Km. N. W. of Siliguri.

Distribution.—India: Darjeeling; W. Bengal; Assam along base of hills.

33. *Garra gotyla* (Gray)

1832-33. *Cyprinus gotyla* Gray, *Ill. Ind. zool. Hardwicki*, 2, pl. 88, figs. 3, 31 (type locality, Northern India).

Material.—1 ex., Stn. 20, Jalpaiguri fish market, purchased, 14. ii. 1970; 6 exs., Stn. 24, River Teesta Western bank, Teesta bridge, 12 Km. N.E. of Jalpaiguri, 15. ii. 1970; 1 ex., Stn. 29, Bagdogra fish market, purchased, 19. ii. 1970; 76 exs., Stn. 32, River Balasan at Digana, near Panighata, 32 Km N. W. of Siliguri, 21. ii. 1970.

Distribution.—India, along the Himalayan foot hills; Pakistan: W. Punjab. Bangladesh.

Remarks.—Menon (1964) gave the features of the “lamta” complex to which this species belongs. The horny tubercles on the snout are arranged in a bilaterally symmetrical pattern. In the adult, four tubercles are present on either side of the nostrils, six on each side above angle of mouth, 9 or 10 on top of snout tip or the proboscis. In the juveniles also the same pattern exists, but the number of tubercles is less.

Besides the tubercles, a transverse groove across the top of the snout is also present. The base of branched fin rays does not have any dark spots. All are uniformly cement grey in colour with the ventral surface dull yellowish.

A few specimens were kept alive in rock pool in River Balasan at Digana. They were observed to scrap the bottom with their lips, with the body at an inclined angle, and very rarely they remained horizontal. However, when they were placed in a pool with a sandy bottom and sides, they buried themselves in the sand at the bottom.

This species is most closely related to *G. mullya* (Sykes) with which it is often confused also. It may be reiterated here that *G. mullya* is now restricted to Peninsular India, and is separated by the relative position of the vent in relation to the place of insertion of pelvic and anal fins.

34. *Labeo bata* (Hamilton)

1822. *Cyprinus bata* Hamilton, *Fish. Ganges*, pp. 283, 386 (type locality, rivers and ponds of Bengal).

Material.—2 exs., Stn. 17, River Atrai, Kumargunj, 11. ii. 1970.

Distribution.—India: north of the Krishna river system; Bangladesh.

35. *Labeo boga* (Hamilton)

1822. *Cyprinus boga* Hamilton, *Fish. Ganges*, pp. 286, 386, pl. 28, fig. 80 (type locality, Brahmaputra).

Material.—1 ex., Stn. 4., River Purnabhava, at Kenpukur village, 16. Km S.E. of Malda, 31. i. 1970; 5 exs., Stn. 14, River Jamuna at

Hilli village, 24 Km N.E. of Balurghat, 8. ii. 1970; 2 exs., Stn. 17, River Atrai, Kumargunj, 11. ii. 1970; 5 exs., Stn. 18, River Atrai at Balurghat, 12. ii. 1970.

Distribution. —Throughout India; Pakistan; Bangladesh; Burma.

36. *Labeo calbasu* (Hamilton)

1822. *Cyprinus calbasu* Hamilton, *Fish. Ganges*, pp. 297, 387, p. 2, fig. 83 (type locality, Rivers and ponds of Bengal and Western provinces).

Material. —1 ex., Stn. 2, Bulbulchandi on bank of R. Tengan, 20 Km S.E. of Malda, purchased, 31. i. 1970; 1 ex., Stn. 4, River Purnabhava, at Kenpukur village, 31. i. 1970; 2 exs., Stn. 6, Aihoo Village, purchased, 1. ii. 1970; 2 exs., Stn. 14, River Jamuna at Hilli Village, 24 Km N.E. of Balurghat, 8. ii. 1970.

Distribution. —Throughout India; Pakistan; Bangladesh; Burma; Thailand.

37. *Labeo gonius* (Hamilton)

1822. *Cyprinus gonius* Hamilton, *Fish. Ganges*, pp. 292, 387 (type locality, freshwater rivers and ponds of Bengal).

Material. —1 ex., Stn., 14, River Jamuna at Hilli village, 24 Km N.E. of Balurghat, 8. ii. 1970.

Distribution. —India: E. Punjab, Uttar Pradesh, Bihar, Bengal, Assam. Burma; Bangladesh.

38. *Osteobrama cotio cotio* (Hamilton)

1822. *Cyprinus cotio* Hamilton, *Fish. Ganges*, pp. 339 pl. 39, fig. 93 (type locality, ponds and ditches of Bengal).

Material. —7 exs., Stn. 5, confluence of Tengan with R. Mahananda at Aihoo village, 16 Km S. E. of Malda, 1. ii. 1970. 14 exs., Stn. 9; River Mahananda at Adampur village, 10 Km. S.E. of Malda; 3 exs., Stn. 11, River Mahananda at Malda, 5. ii. 1970; 2 exs., Stn. 14, River Jamuna at Hilli village, 24 Km N.E. of Balurghat, 42 exs., Stn. 18, River Atrai at Balurghat, 12. ii. 1970; 2 exs., Stn. 24, River Teesta, Western Bank at Teesta Bridge, 12 Km N. E. of Jalpaiguri, 15. ii. 1970.

Distribution. —India, North of Krishna river system; Pakistan: W. Punjab. Bangladesh; Burma; China.

Remarks. —All anal fin rays are streaked with black dots. A random count of ana fin rays (both branched and simple) showed as below:

Stn. 5	7 exs.	39 to 55 mm SL	30-32 rays
Stn. 9	14 exs.	30 to 56 mm SL	29-32
Stn. 18	10 exs. (out of 42)	23 to 36 mm SL	29-30
Stn. 24	2 exs.	44 & 55 mm SL	28, 30

Silas (1952) differentiated the peninsular form as a separate variety. The specimens under report however belong to the nominate form.

39. *Semiplotus semiplotus* McClelland

1839. *Cyprinus semiplotus* McClelland, *Asiat. Res.* 19. p. 274, fig. 20 (type locality Brahmaputra in Upper Assam).

Material.—1 ex., Stn. 24, River Teesta, Western bank at Teesta bridge, 12 Km N. E. of Jalpaiguri, 15. ii. 1970; 2 exs., Stn. 32, River Balasan at Digana near Panighata, 32 Km N. W. of Siliguri, 21. ii. 1970.

Distribution.—India: along Terai Duars, N. Bengal, Assam; Burma.

40. *Crossocheilus latius latius* (Hamilton)

1822. *Cyprinus latitus* Hamilton, *Fish. Ganges*, pp. 345, 393 (type locality, the Teesta).

Material.—1 ex., Stn. 2, River Tengan at Bulbulchandi, 20 Km S. E. of Malda, 31. i. 1970; 6 exs., Stn. 10, River Kalindri at village Ratua, 38 Km N. W. of Malda, 4. ii. 1970; 1 ex., Stn. 13, Balurghat fish market, purchased, 8. ii. 1970; 1 ex., Stn. 16, River Atrai at Puglee gunj, 10 Km. North of Balurghat, 10. ii. 1970; 18 exs., Stn. 18, River Atrai at Balurghat, 12. ii. 1970; 8 exs., Stn. 20, Jalpaiguri fish market purchased, 14. ii. 1970; 14 exs., Stn. 32, River Balasan at Digana near Panighata, 32 Km N. W. of Siliguri 21. ii. 1970.

Distribution.—India: hill streams from plains level to 600 m. of U.P., Bihar, W. Bengal, Deccan; Pakistan; Bangladesh.

Remarks.—Mukerji (1934) ably discussed the variations met with in this species, in different geographical areas of its habitat. The Assamese and Burmese forms are reported to have only 8 scales in a transverse series ($4\frac{1}{2}/3\frac{1}{2}$) and 15 or 16 round the caudal peduncle; the head length is stated to contain 4.3 to 4.8 times in the standard length. The material examined by me agree well with these findings of Mukerji.

All examples have a black streak along mid-line of body, Specimens collected in River Balasan at Digana, however lack the black band. It may be mentioned that Balasan is a hill stream with a rocky bottom.

Family V. PSILORHYNCHIDAE

41. *Psilorhynchus balitora* (Hamilton)

1822. *Cyprinus balitora* Hamilton, *Fish. Ganges*, pp. 348, 394 (type locality, rivers in north-east of Bengal).

Material.—2 exs., Stn. 24, River Teesta Western bank at Teesta bridge, Jalpaiguri, 17. ii. 1970; 5 exs., Stn. 29, Bagdogra fish market, purchased, 19. ii. 1970.

Distribution.—India: along the foot hill mountains of E. Himalaya in W. Bengal, Assam; Bangladesh.

42. *Psilorhynchus sucatio* (Ham.)

1822. *Cyprinus sucatio* Hamilton, *Fish. Ganges*, pp. 347, 393 (type locality, rivers of Northern Bengal).

1933. *Psilorhynchus sucatio*, Mukerji, *J. Bombay nat. Hist. Soc.*, 36 pp. 823-828.

Material.—1 ex., Stn., 18, River, Atrai at Balurghat, 12. ii. 1970; 3 exs., Stn. 20, Jalpaiguri fish market, 14. ii. 1970; 5 exs., Stn. 20, Jalpaiguri fish market, 14. ii. 1970; 5 exs., Stn. 24, River Teesta, Western bank at Teesta Bridge, 12 Km N.E. of Jalpaiguri, 15. ii. 1970; 2 exs., Stn. 28, River Dharla at Mainaguri, 16 Km N.E. of Jalpaiguri, 16. ii. 1970; 5 exs., Stn. 29, Bagdogra fish market, purchased, 19. ii. 1970; 8 exs., Stn. 30, Khoribari fish market, 44 Km S.W. of Siliguri, 20. ii. 1970.

Distribution.—India: hill streams of North Bengal.

Remarks.—This is a more common species than *P. balitora*. The colour spots on the body as stated by Hora and quoted by Shaw and Shebbeare (1938) are very diagnostic. Hora (1921) described them as "broad, clouded vertical bands on the body and a number of stripes on the caudal fin"

Family VI COBITIDAE

43. *Lepidocephalichthys guntea* (Hamilton)

1822. *Cobitis guntea* Hamilton, *Fish. Ganges*, pp. 353, 394. (type locality, ponds and fresh water rivers of Bengal.)

Material.—1 ex., Stn. 5, confluence of Tengan river with Mahananda at Aihoo village, 1. ii. 1970; 1 ex., Stn. 6, Aihoo village fish market, purchased 1. ii. 1970; 1 ex., Stn. 11, River Mahananda at Malda, 5. ii. 1970; 1 ex., Stn. 16, River Atrai at Pugleegunj, 10 Km north of Balurghat, 10. ii. 1970; 1 ex., Stn. 26, River Dharla at Changrabhandha, 40 Km S. E. of Jalpaiguri, 16. ii. 1970; 8 exs., Stn. 29, Bagdogra fish market, purchased, 19. ii. 1970; 1 ex., Stn. 32, River Balasan, at Digana near Panighata, 21. ii. 1970.

Distribution.—India: throughout North India; Pakistan and Bangladesh.

44. *Lepidocephalichthys guntea balgara* (Hamilton)

1822. *Cobitis balgara* Hamilton, *Fish. Ganges*, pp. 356, 394 (type locality, Nathpur).

Material.—3 exs., Stn. 18, River Atrai at Balurghat, 12. ii. 1970.

Distribution.—India: W. Bengal, Burma, North Bengal; Bangladesh.

Remarks.—The colour spots over the body is very characteristic in this species. Three examples from Stn. 18, River Atrai at Balurghat are referable to the variety *balgara* of Day (1878, p. 609). These have the body colour pale brown, without any heavy spots. Faint black lines along centre of body are present. In two specimens the pelvic fins are inserted slightly in advance of the dorsal fin.

45. *Botia dario* (Hamilton)

1822. *Cobitis dario* Hamilton, *Fish. Ganges*, pp. 354, 394, pl 29, fig. 95 (type locality, northern rivers of Bengal).

Material.—11 exs., Stn. 5, confluence of River Tengan with River Mahananda at Aihoo village, 16 Km S.E. of Malda, 1. ii. 1970; 5 exs., Stn. 13, Balurghat fish market, purchased, 8. ii. 1970; 23 exs., Stn. 18, River Atrai at Balurghat, 12. ii. 1970; 4 exs., Stn. 20, Jalpaiguri fish market, purchased, 14. ii. 1970; 1 ex., Stn. 29, Bagdogra fish market, purchased, 19. ii. 1970;

Distribution.—India: U.P., Bihar, W. Bengal, Assam. Bangladesh.

Remarks.—The number of bands on the body and on the caudal fin is variable. Most of the specimens examined have 7 bands on body and 2 on the caudal. In a lot of 26 examples examined only one had 3 bands over the caudal and four had six bands over the body.

46. *Somileptes gongota* (Hamilton)

1822. *Cobitis gongota* Hamilton, *Fish. Ganges*, pp. 351, 394 (type locality, Northern Bengal towards mountains; Patgong in original notes).

Material.—4 exs., Stn. 20, Jalpaiguri fish market purchased, 14. ii. 1970; 2 exs., Stn. 24, River Teesta, Western bank at Teesta Bridge, 12 Km N.E. of Jalpaiguri, 15. ii. 1970; 2 ex., Stn. 26, River Dharla at Changra-bhandha, 40 Km S.E. of Jalpaiguri, 16. ii. 1970; 2 exs., Stn. 28, River Dharla at Mainaguri, 16 Km. N.E. of Jalpaiguri, near road bridge. 16. ii. 1970.

Distribution.—India: Bihar, W. Bengal, Assam; Bangladesh.

Remarks.—In general 6 or 7 oblique blotches with light edges descend from the back in this species. Two examples 69 and 78 mm in standard length from River Dharla at Minaguri have only five blotches, lighter in colour and placed irregularly, but the body is heavily pigmented.

47. *Noemacheilus botia* (Hamilton)

1822. *Cobitis botia* Hamilton, *Fish. Ganges*, pp. 350, 358, 394, 395 (type locality, Rivers of north eastern parts of Bengal).

Material. —2 exs., Stn. 9, River Mahananda at Adampur village, 10 Km S.E., of Malda, 3. ii. 1970; 1 ex., Stn. 10, River Kalindri at village Ratua, 38 Km N. W. of Malda, 4. ii. 1970; 8 exs., Stn. 20, Jalpaiguri fish market, purchased 14. ii. 1970; 3 exs., Stn. 27, River Jaldhaka at Charchurabhandar, 28 Km N.E. of Jalpaiguri, 16. ii. 1970; 7 exs., Stn. 30, Khoribari fish market, 44 Km. S. W. of Siliguri, 20. ii. 1970; 2 exs., Stn. 32, River Balasan at Digana, near Panighata, 32 Km N.W. of Siliguri, 21. ii. 1970.

Distribution.—India; Pakistan; Bangladesh; Sri Lanka.

Remarks. —The caudal fin has 4 or 5 bands in some of the examples studied from River Mahananda and Kalindri. The dorsal fin has 12 rays in most specimens.

48. *Noemacheilus botia aureus* Day

1878. *Nemachilus botia aureus* Day, *Fish. India*, p. 614, pl. 156, fig. 4 (type locality, Assam).

Material. —1 ex., Stn. 5, confluence of River Tengan with Mahananda at Aihoo village, 16 Km S.E. of Malda, 1. ii. 1970.

Distribution —India: Deccan, Orissa, N. Bengal.

49. *Noemacheilus beavani* Günther

1868. *Nemachilus beavani* Günther, *Cat Fish. Brit. Mus.*, 7, p. 350 (type locality, Kosi river).

Material. —3 exs., Stn. 29, Bagdogra fish market, purchased, 19. ii. 1970; 3 exs., Stn. 32, River Balasan at Digana near Panighata, 32 Km N. W. of Siliguri, 21. ii. 1970.

Distribution. —India: Khasi, Garo hills, Eastern Himalaya and along foot hills of N.E.F.A.

Remarks. —There are 8 to 10 bands on body. No fleshy appendage is seen on the pectoral or pelvic axil as reported by Hora (1935). The dark band at the base of the caudal fin is distinct.

50. *Noemacheilus corica* (Hamilton)

1822. *Cobitis corica* Hamilton, *Fish. Ganges*, pp. 359, 395 (type locality, Kosi river).

1964. *Noemacheilus corica*, Jayaram & Majumdar, *J. Bombay nat. Hist. Soc.*, 61(2), p. 277.

Material. —8 exs., Stn. 8, Kalindri river at Kotwalce village, 9 Km N.W. to Malda, 2. ii. 1970; 1 ex., Stn. 24, Teesta river near Jalpaiguri, at Teesta bridge, 12 Km N.E. of Jalpaiguri, 16. ii. 1970.

Distribution.—India: Punjab, North-East Bengal, Assam, N.E.F.A.

Remarks.—The coloration is characteristic in this species. In the single example from River Teesta, 10 blotches are present over the body, the caudal fin is slightly forked, and the third and fourth pectoral fin ray produced reaching the pelvic fin. The examples from Kalindri river are juveniles 26 to 30 mm long, and have 9 to 12 spots along the dorsal profile, but the pectoral fin rays are not produced.

51. *Noemacheilus zonatus* (McClelland)

1839. *Schistura zonata* McClelland, *Asiatic researches*, 19, pp. 308, 441, pl. 53, fig. 1 (type locality, Upper Assam).

1962. *Noemacheilus zonatus*, Motwani, Jayaram & Sehgal, *Tropical Ecology*, 3, p. 27.

Material.—2 exs., Stn. 9, River Mahananda at Adampur village, 10 Km S.E. to Malda, 3. ii. 1970; 1 ex., Stn. 18, River Atrai, at Balurghat, 12. ii. 1970.

Distribution.—India : Jamuna, Ganga, Brahmaputra river system and extending upto Orissa in the south.

Remarks.—The number of bands vary from 14 to 17. The lateral line commencing from two roots is rather faint in the two examples from Mahananda river. In all other respects, the material agree with Day's (1878) description. Motwani, Jayaram and Sehgal (1962) discussed its differentiating characters from *N. sikmaiensis* Hora with which it is closely related.

Family VII BAGRIDAE

52. *Batasio batasio* (Hamilton)

1822. *Pimelodus batasio* Hamilton, *Fish. Ganges*, pp. 179, 377 (type locality, Teesta river, Jalpaiguri).

Material.—54 exs., Stn. 20, Jalpaiguri fish market, purchased, 14. ii. 1970; 40 exs., Stn. 24, River Teesta, Western bank at Teesta Bridge, 12 Km N.E. of Jalpaiguri, 15 ii. 1970.

Distribution.—India : N. Bengal, Teesta river system.

53. *Batasio tengana* (Hamilton)

1822. *Pimelodus tengana* Hamilton, *Fish. Ganges*. pp. 176, 377, pl. 39, fig. 58 (type locality, Brahmaputra river, Goalpara in original notes).

Material.—80 exs., Stn. 32, Balasan river at Digana near Panighata, 21. ii. 1970.

Distribution.—India: hill streams along foot hills of Eastern Himalaya in North Bengal, Assam; Bangladesh; Burma; Malaysia.

54. *Chandramara chandramara* (Hamilton)

1822. *Pimelodus chandramara* Hamilton, *Fish. Ganges*, pp. 162, 375 (type locality, River Atrai).
 1973. *Chandramara chandramara*, Jayaram, *Int. Revue ges. Hydrobiol.*, 5 (5) (1971) p. 816 (systematic position, description).

Material.—12 exs., Stn 31, Bidhan Roy fish market, Siliguri, purchased, 21. ii. 1970; 2 exs., Stn. 24, Jalpaiguri fish market, purchased, 17. ii. 1970.

Distribution.—India: Rivers Atrai, Mahananda, Teesta, and their tributaries in North Bengal; Bangladesh.

Remarks.—The systematic position of this elusive bagrid fish has been dealt with by Jayaram (1972, 1973).

55. *Mystus bleekeri* (Day)

1877. *Macrones bleekeri* Day, *Fish. India*, p. 451, pl. 101, fig. 1 (type locality, Sind, Jamuna, Upper waters of Ganges, Burma).

Material.—41 exs., Stn. 2, Bulbulchandi fishmarket, purchased, reported catch from R. Tengan, 31. i. 1970; 11 exs., Stn. 15, River Purnabhava at Gangarampur, 42 Km N. W. of Balurghat, 9. ii. 1970; 21 exs., Stn. 16, River Atrai at Puleegunj, 10 Km North of Balurghat, 10. ii. 1970; 33 exs., Stn. 20, Jalpaiguri fish market, purchased, 14. ii. 1970.

Distribution.—India: North of Orissa; throughout Pakistan; Bangladesh; Burma; Malaysia.

56. *Mystus cavasius* (Hamilton)

1822. *Pimelodus cavasius* Hamilton, *Fish. Ganges*, pp. 203, 379, pl. 11, fig. 6 (type locality, larger rivers of Gangetic provinces).

Material.—4 exs., Stn. 2, Bulbulchandi fish market, purchased, reported catch from River Tengan; 134 exs., Stn. 6, Aihoo village fish market, catch from River Tengan, 1. ii. 1970; 2 exs., Stn. 9, Rivers Mahananda at Adampur village, 10 Km. S. E. of Malda, 3. ii. 1970; 10 exs., Stn. 14, River Jamuna at Hilli Village, 24 Km N.E. of Balurghat, 8. ii. 1970; 22 exs., Stn. 15, River Purnabhava at Gangarampur, 42 Km N. W. of Balurghat, 9. ii. 1970; 4 exs., Stn. 16, River Atrai at Puleegunj, 16 Km North of Balurghat, 10. ii. 1970; 50 exs., Stn. 20, Jalpaiguri fish market, 14. ii. 1970; 4 exs., Stn. 24, River Teesta, western bank of Teesta bridge, 12 Km N. E. of Jalpaiguri, 16. ii. 1970.

Distribution.—Throughout India; Pakistan; Bangladesh; Burma; Thailand; Malaysia.

57. *Mystus menoda* (Hamilton)

1822. *Pimelodus menoda* Hamilton, *Fish. Ganges*, p. 203, pl. 1, fig. 72 (type locality, Northern Bengal, Bolahat in original notes).

Material.—1 ex., Stn. 2, Bulbulchandi, purchased from fishermen bringing catch from River Tengan, 31. i. 1970; 3 exs., Stn. 6, Aihoo village fish market, purchased, 1. ii. 1970. 1 ex., Stn. 14, River Jamuna at Village Hilli, 24 Km N. E. of Balurghat, 8. ii. 1970.

Distribution.—India: Orissa, Bengal, Assam.

58. *Mystus tengara* (Hamilton)

1822. *Pimelodus carcio* Hamilton, *Fish. Ganges*, p. 377, pl. 23, fig. 60 (type locality, northern parts of Bengal).

Material.—1 ex., Stn. 5, confluence of River Tengan with River Mahananda, 16 Km S.E. of Malda, 1. ii. 1970; 2 exs., Stn. 24, River Teesta, western bank at Teesta bridge, 12 Km N.E. of Jalpaiguri, 15. ii. 1970; 1 ex., Stn. 29, Bagdogra fish market, purchased, 19. ii. 1970; 28 exs., Stn. 30, Khoribari fish market, purchased, 44 Km S.W. of Siliguri, 20. ii. 1970.

Distribution.—India: north of Orissa, Bangladesh.

59. *Mystus vittatus* (Bloch)

1797. *Silurus vittatus* Bloch, *Ichthyol. Hist. Nat.*, 11, p. 40, pl. 361, fig. 12 (type locality, Tranquebar, S. India).

Material.—32 exs., Stn. 31, Bidhan Roy Market, Siliguri, purchased, 21. ii. 1970.

Distribution.—Throughout India; Sri Lanka; Pakistan; Bangladesh; Burma; Thailand.

Family VIII SILURIDAE

60. *Ompok bimaculatus* (Bloch)

1797. *Silurus bimaculatus* Bloch, *Syst. Icth.*, 11, p. 17, pl. 369 (type locality, Malabar).

Material.—1 ex., Stn. 2, Bulbulchandi fish market, purchased from fishermen, catch from R. Tengan, 31. i. 1970; 1 ex., Stn. 3, Aihoo village, River Tengan, 31. i. 1970; 1 ex., Stn. 4, River Purnabhava at Kenpukur, 16 Km S. E. of Malda, 31. i. 1970; 2 exs., Stn. 8, Aihoo village 'hat', purchased 1. ii. 1970; 13 exs., Stn. 20, Jalpaiguri fish market, purchased, 14. ii. 1970; 1 ex., Stn. 24, River Teesta, western bank at Teesta bridge, 12 Km N.E. of Jalpaiguri, 15. ii. 1970; 2 exs., Stn. 30, Khoribari fish 'hat', purchased, 20. ii. 1970.

Distribution.—Throughout India; Pakistan; Sri Lanka; Burma; Thailand; Malaysia; China.

61. *Ompok pabda* (Hamilton)

1822. *Silurus pabda* Hamilton, *Fish. Ganges*, pp. 150, 374, pl. 23, fig. 47 (type locality, Bengal).

Material.—5 exs., Stn. 20, Jalpaiguri fish market, purchased, 14. ii. 1970.

Distribution.—India: North of Orissa; Bangladesh.

Remarks.—Parameswaran *et al.* (1967) demonstrated that *O. pabo* and *O. pabda* are two distinct species, each having a separate life-history, though the former is of rare occurrence.

Family IX SCHEILBEIDAE

62. *Ailia coila* (Hamilton)

1822. *Malapterus coila* Hamilton, *Fish. Ganges*, pp. 158, 375 (type locality, fresh water rivers of Bengal).

Material.—10 exs., Stn. 5, confluence of River Tengan with River Mahananda, at Aihoo Village, 16 Km S.E. of Malda, 1. ii. 1970; 21 exs., Stn. 8, River Kalindri at village Kotwalee, 2 Km N.W. of Malda 2. ii. 1970; 1 ex., Stn. 15, River Purnabhava at Gangarampur village, 42 Km N. W. of Balurghat, 9. ii. 1970; 1 ex., Stn. 16, River Atrai at Pugleegunj, 10 Km North of Balurghat, 10. ii. 1970; 1 ex., Stn. 20, Jalpaiguri fish market, purchased, 14. ii. 1970.

Distribution.—Throughout India except Kerala; Throughout Pakistan and Bangladesh.

Remarks.—Jayaram (1963) discussed the affinities of this species with *A. punctata* (Day).

63. *Eutropichthys vacha* (Hamilton)

1822. *Pimelodus vacha* Hamilton *Fish. Ganges*, pp. 196, 378, pl. 19, fig. 6 (type locality, larger freshwater rivers of the Gangetic provinces).

Material.—1 ex., Stn. 2, Bulbulchandi, purchased from fishermen on the bank of River Tengan, 31. i. 1970; 4 exs., Stn. 10, River Kalindri at Village Ratua, 38 Km of N.W. of Malda, 1. ii. 1970.

Distribution.—India: North of Orissa; Bangladesh; Burma.

64. *Eutropiichthys murius* (Hamilton)

1822. *Pimelodus murius* Hamilton, *Fish. Ganges*, pp. 195, 378 (type locality, Mahananda river).

Material.—2 exs., Stn. 5, Confluence of River Tengan with River Mahananda at village Aihoo, 16 Km S.E. of Malda, 1. ii. 1970.

Distribution.—India: North of Orissa; Bangladesh.

65. *Clupisoma garua* (Hamilton)

1822. *Silurus garua* Hamilton, *Fish. Ganges*, pp. 156, 375, pl. 21, fig. 50 (type locality, freshwater rivers of the Gangetic provinces).

Material.—12 exs., Stn. 5, Confluence of River Tengan with River Mahananda at Aihoo village, 16 Km S. E. of Malda, 1. ii. 1970; 1 ex., Stn. 13, Balurghat fish market, purchased, 10. ii. 1970; 7 exs., Stn. 15, River Purnabhava at Gangarampur, 42 Km N.W. of Balurghat, 9. ii. 1970; 3 exs., Stn. 20, Jalpaiguri fish market, purchased, 14. ii. 1970.

Distribution.—India: north of Orissa; Bangladesh; Burma.

66. *Clupisoma montana* Hora

1937. *Clupisoma montana* Hora, *J. Bombay nat. Hist. Soc.*, 39(4), p. 673 (type locality, Teesta river, below Darjeeling).

Material.—7 exs., Stn. 8, River Kalindri at village Kotwalee, 9 Km N.W. of Malda, 2. ii. 1970.

Distribution.—India: Teesta river system, North Bengal.

Remarks.—Shaw and Shebbeare (1938) did not record this species.

Family X AMBLYCIPITIDAE

67. *Amblyceps mangois* (Hamilton)

1822. *Pimelodus mangois* Hamilton, *Fish. Ganges*, pp. 199, 379 (type locality, Northern Bengal).

Material.—2 exs., Stn. 29, Bagdogra fish market, purchased, 19. ii. 1970; 1 ex., Stn. 30, Khoribari fish 'hat', purchased, 20. ii. 1970; 2 exs., Stn. 32, River Balasan at Digana, near Panighata, 32 Km N.W. of Siliguri, 21. ii. 1970.

Distribution.—India: along streams at the foot hills of Himalaya from Punjab to Manipur; Burma; Thailand.

Family XI SISORIDAE

68. *Bagarius bagarius* Hamilton

1822. *Pimelodus bagarius* Hamilton, *Fish. Ganges*, pp. 186, 318, pl. 7, fig. 62 (type locality, the Ganges).

Material.—4 exs., Stn. 13, Balurghat fish market, purchased, 12. ii. 1970.

Distribution.—India: north of Krishna river system; Pakistan: throughout; Bangladesh; Burma; Malaya; Malay; Archipelago; Thailand; Laos; Vietnam.

69. *Gagata cenia* (Hamilton)

1022. *Pimelodus cenia* Hamilton, *Fish. Ganges*, pp. 174, 376, pl. 31, fig. 57 (type locality, Northern Bengal).

Material.—6 exs., Stn. 5, confluence of River Tengan with River Mahananda at village Aihoo 16 Km S.W. of Malda 1. ii. 1970; 7 exs., Stn. 9, River Mahananda at village, Adampur, 10 Km S.E. of Malda, 3. ii. 1970; 3 exs., Stn. 10, River Kalindri at village Ratua, 38 Km N.W. of Malda, 4. ii. 1970; 22 exs., Stn. 13, Balurghat fish market, purchased catch from river Atrai, 8. ii. 1970; 12 exs., Stn. 18, River Atrai, Balurghat, 12. ii. 1970.

Distribution.—India: north of Orissa; Bangladesh; Burma.

70. *Laguvia ribeiroi* Hora

1921. *Laguvia ribeiroi* Hora, *Rec. Indian, Mus.*, 22, pp. 741, pl. 29 fig. 3 (type locality, River Kholia, a tributary of Teesta at Jalpaiguri).

Material.—1 ex., Stn. 28, R. Dharla at Mainaguri, 16 Km. N.E. of Jalpaiguri, 16. ii. 1970.

Distribution.—India : N. Bengal.

Remarks.—Jayaram (1973) discussed the generic status of this species and resurrected the genus from the synonymy of *Glyptothorax* Blyth. The specimen was obtained by means of trap net from the Dharla river from a sluggish stretch of the stream.

71. *Nangra nangra* (Hamilton)

1822. *Pimelodus nangra* Hamilton, *Fish. Ganges*, pp. 193, 378, pl. 11, fig. 63 (type locality, Kosi river, Nathpur in original notes).

Material.—2 exs., Stn. 13, Balurghat fish market, purchased, catch from R. Atrai, 8. ii. 1970.

Distribution.—India: Jamuna, Ganga, Indus.

Remarks.—The two examples have a black streak along the lateral line and also a caudal spot.

72. *Nangra viridiscens* (Hamilton)

1822. *Pimelodus viridiscens* Hamilton, *Fish. Ganges*, pp. 173, 376, pl. 11, fig. 56. (type locality, Northern Bengal).

Material.—1 ex., Stn. 9, River Mahananda at Adampur village 10 Km S.E. of Malda, 3. ii. 1970; 17 exs., Stn. 13, Balurghat fish market, purchased, catch from River Atrai, 8. ii. 1970; 25 exs., Stn. 16, River, Atrai at Puleegunj, 10 Km North of Balurghat, 10. ii. 1970, 9 exs., Stn. 18, River Atrai at Balurghat, 12. ii. 1970.

Distribution.—India: North Bengal, Jamuna at Delhi; Bangladesh.

Remarks.—Shaw and Shebbeare (1938) did not record this species. Jayaram (1973a) resurrected this genus from the synonymy of *Gagata* Bleeker and defined its generic limits.

73. *Erethistoides montana* Hora

1950. *Erethistoides montana* Hora, *Rec. Indian Mus.*, 47, p. 191, pl. 1, figs. 10-12 (type locality, Tangla, Darrang dist., Assam).

Material.—2 exs., Stn. 26, R. Dharla at Changrabhandha, 40 Km. S. E. of Jalpaiguri, 16. ii. 1970.

Distribution.—India: North Bengal, Assam.

Remarks.—*Erethistoides montana* Hora was collected along with *Laguvia ribeiroi* from a sluggish part of the River Dharla. Both share the same ecological niche and are peculiar.

74. *Hara hara* (Hamilton)

1822. *Pimelodus hara* Hamilton, *Fish. Ganges*, p. 190 (type locality, River Kosi).

Material.—2 exs., Stn. 24, River Teesta, Western bank, at Teesta Bridge, 12 Km N.E. of Jalpaiguri, 15. ii. 1970.

Distribution.—India: Bihar, N. Bengal, Assam; Bangladesh; Burma.

Remarks.—This species closely resembles *Laguvia ribeiroi*. Jayaram (1973 b) discussed the relationship between the two genera and pointed out the differentiating characters.

75. *Glyptothorax telchitta* (Hamilton)

1822. *Pimelodus telchitta* Hamilton, *Fish. Ganges*, pp. 185, 378 (type locality, Bengal and Bihar; Jungipur, Nathpur in original notes).

Material.—3 exs., Stn. 7, Malda fish market, purchased, 2. ii. 1970; 1 ex., Stn. 13, Balurghat fish market, purchased, 10. ii. 1970; 2 exs., Stn. 30, Khoribari fish 'hat', 44 Km. S.W. of Siliguri, purchased, 20. ii. 1970; 9 exs., Stn. 32, River Balasan at Digana near Panighata, 32 Km N.W. of Siliguri, 21. ii. 1970.

Distribution.—India: U. P., Bihar, N. Bengal; Bangladesh; Nepal.

76. *Sisor rhabdophorus* Hamilton

1822. *Sisor rhabdophorus* Hamilton, *Fish. Ganges*, pp. 208, 379 (type locality, Northern rivers of Bengal and Bihar).

Material.—1 ex. Stn. 11, River Mahananda, Malda, 5. ii. 1970.

Distribution.—India: generally North India; Throughout Pakistan; Bangladesh.

Family XII HETEROPNEUSTIDAE

77. *Heteropneustes fossilis* (Bloch)

1797. *Silurus fossilis* Bloch, *Auslandische Fische*, 11, pl. 370, text-fig. 2 (type locality, Tranquebar).

Material.—2 exs., Stn. 3, R. Tengan at Aihoo village, 31. i. 1970.

Distribution.—India: Throughout; Pakistan; Bangladesh; Sri Lanka; Nepal; Burma; Thailand.

Family XIII SCIAENIDAE

78. *Jahnius coitor* (Hamilton)

1822. *Bola coitor* Hamilton, *Fish. Ganges*, pp. 75, 308, pl. 27, fig. 24. (type locality, Ganges, river).

Material.—2 exs., Stn. 9, River Mahananda at Adampur village, 3. ii. 1970.

Distribution.—Throughout the larger rivers of India descending to the sea at certain seasons. Bangladesh; Burma.

Family XIV AMBASSIDAE

79. *Chanda baculis* Hamilton

1822. *Chanda baculis* Hamilton, *Fish. Ganges*, pp. 112, 371 (type locality, Ganges).

Material.—3 exs., Stn. 28, R. Dharla at Mainaguri, 16 Km N. E. of Jalpaiguri, 16. ii. 1970.

Distribution.—India: North of Orissa. Throughout Pakistan; Bangladesh; Burma; Thailand.

Remarks.—The color is olive and no occipital spot is present.

80. *Chanda nama* Hamilton

1822. *Chanda nama* Hamilton, *Fish. Ganges*, pp. 109, 371, pl. 39, fig. 37 (type locality, ponds throughout Bengal).

Material.—2 exs., Stn. 2, Bulbulchandi fishmarket, purchased, catch from River Tengan, 31. i. 1970; 1 ex., Stn. 6, Aihoo village 'hat'

purchased, 1. ii. 1970; 7 exs., Stn. 18, River Atrai at Balurghat, 12. ii. 1970; 10 exs., Stn. 20, Jalpaiguri fish market, purchased 14. ii. 1970; 2 exs., Stn. 24, River Teesta, Western bank near Teesta Bridge, 12 Km N. E. of Jalpaiguri, 15. ii. 1970; 1 ex., Stn. 28, River Dharla at Mainaguri, 16 Km N.E. of Jalpaiguri, 16. ii. 1970.

Distribution.—Throughout India; Pakistan; Bangladesh; Burma.

Remarks.—The lateral line in all the specimens studied is indistinct. The black spot behind the opercle is also present. Some specimens have a blotch on the dorsal fin. However, the seven examples from Stn. 18, 25-39 mm long, have no opercular spot.

81. *Chanda ranga* Hamilton

1822. *Chanda ranga* Hamilton, *Fish. Ganges*, pp. 13, 371, pl. 16, fig. 38 (type locality, freshwater rivers of Gangetic provinces).

Material.—15 exs., Stn. 9, River Mahananda at Adampur village, 10 Km. S. E. of Malda, 3. ii. 1970; 1 ex., Stn. 10, River Kalindri at village Ratua, 38 Km N. W. of Malda, 4. ii. 1970; 1 ex. Stn. 13, Balurghat at fish market, catch from River Atrai, 8. ii. 1970; 4 exs., Stn. 14, River Jamuna at Hilli village, 24 Km N.E. of Balurghat, 8. ii. 1970; 32 exs., Stn. 18, River Atrai at Balurghat, 12. ii. 1970; 2 exs., Stn. 24, River Teesta, Western bank at Teesta Bridge, 12 Km N.E. of Jalpaiguri, 15. ii. 1970; 2 exs., Stn. 26, River Dharla at Changra-bhandha, 40 Km S.E. of Jalpaiguri, below road bridge, 16. ii. 1970; 2 exs., Stn. 28, River Dharla at Mainaguri, 16 Km N.E. of Jalpaiguri, near road bridge, 16. ii. 1970.

Distribution.—Throughout India; Pakistan; Bangladesh; Burma; Thailand; Malaya.

Remarks.—The 32 specimens from Stn. 18, River Atrai, Balurghat form a good series, 17 to 30 mm in standard length. The dark spot on the dorsal fin is present. The spot on either side of the occipital crest-become coalesced in the smaller specimens. Similarly in the juveniles the upper caudal lobe is longer.

Family XV NANDIDAE

82. *Nandus nandus* (Hamilton)

1822. *Coius nandus* Hamilton, *Fish. Ganges*, p. 96, pl. 30, fig. 32 (type locality, ponds of Gangetic provinces).

Material.—2 exs., Stn. 14, River Jamuna at Hilli village, 24 Km N.E. of Balurghat, 8. ii. 1970; 2 exs., Stn. 26, River Dharla at Changra-bhandha, 40 Km S.E. of Jalpaiguri, 16. ii. 1970; 1 ex., Stn. 30, Khoribari fish 'hat,' purchased, 20. ii. 1970; 2 exs., Stn. 32, River Balasan at Digana near Panighatta, 32 Km N.W. of Siliguri, 21. ii. 1970.

Distribution.—Throughout India; Pakistan; Bangladesh; Burma; Thailand; Malaya.

83. *Badis badis* (Hamilton)

1822. *Labrus badis* Hamilton, *Fish. Ganges*, pp. 70, 368, pl. 25, fig. 23 (type locality Gangetic provinces).

Material.—2 exs., Stn. 29, Bagdogra fish market, purchased, 19. ii. 1970; 1 ex., Stn. 30, Khoribari fish 'hat', 44 km S. W. of Siliguri, purchased, 20. ii. 1970.

Distribution.—Throughout India, Pakistan, Bangladesh; Burma.

Family XVI GOBIIDAE

84. *Glossogobius giuris giuris* (Hamilton)

1822. *Gobius giuris* Hamilton, *Fish. Ganges*, pp. 51, 368, pl. 33, fig. 15 (type locality, ponds and freshwater rivers of the Gangetic provinces).

Material.—7 exs., Stn. 2, Bulbulchandi on bank of River Tengan, 20 km S.E. of Malda, purchased, 31. ii. 1970; 1 ex., Stn 5, confluence of River Tengan with Rivers Mahananda at Aihoo village, 16 km S.E. of Malda, 1. ii. 1970; 10 exs., Stn. 9, River Mahananda at Adampur village, 10 km S.E. of Malda, 3. ii. 1970; 5 exs., Stn. 10, River Kalindri, at village Ratua, 38 km N. W. of Malda, 4. ii. 1970; 4 exs., Stn. 11, River Mahananda at Malda, 5. ii. 1970; 1 ex., Stn. 16, River Atrai at Pugleegunj, 10 km North of Balurghat, 10. ii. 1970; 4 exs., Stn. 20, Jalpaiguri fish market, purchased, 14. ii. 1970; 3 exs., Stn. 24, River Teesta, Western Bank, at Teesta Bridge, 12 km N.E. of Jalpaiguri, 15. ii. 1970.

Distribution.—Throughout India, Pakistan, Bangladesh; Burma; Ceylon; East and South coasts of Africa, Mauritius, Malaya; Malay Archipelago; Thailand; China; Japan; Philippines; Melanesia; Polynesia; Australia.

Remarks.—This is a highly variable species. Specimens less than 40 mm in standard length have practically no interorbital space, and the space is measurable only in larger specimens. Most examples have a plain anal fin. The largest example 97 mm long has 3 or 4 dark blotches on the body.

Family XVII. MASTOCSEMBELIDAE

85. *Mastocembelus armatus armatus* (Lacèpède)

1800. *Macrogathus armatus* Lacèpède, *Hist. nat. poiss.*, 2, pp. 283, 284 (type locality, not given).

Material.—1 ex., Stn. 2, Bulbulchandi fish market, purchased from fishermen on bank of R. Tengan, 31. ii. 1970; 1 ex., Stn. 20, Jalpaiguri fish market, purchased, 14. ii. 1970; 1 ex., Stn. 24, Teesta river western bank at Teesta bridge, 12 km N. E. of Jalpaiguri, 16. ii. 1970.

Distribution.—Throughout India; Pakistan; Bangladesh; Sri Lanka; Burma; Thailand; Malaya; Hainan.

86. *Mastocembelus pancalus* (Hamilton)

1822. *Macrogathus pancalus* Hamilton, *Fish. Ganges*, pp. 30, 364, (type locality tanks of the Gangetic provinces).

Material.—4 exs., Stn. 2, Bulbulchandi fish market, purchased from fishermen on bank of R. Tengan, 31. ii. 1970; 1 ex., Stn. 11, River Mahananda at Malda, 5. ii. 1970; 1 ex., St. 30, Khoribari fish 'hat', purchased 20. ii. 1970.

Distribution.—Throughout India, Pakistan, Bangladesh.

87. *Macrogathus aculeatum* (Bloch)

1787. *Ophidium aculeatum* Bloch, *Naturg Ausländisch Fische.*, 5, p. 60., pl. 159, fig.2 (type locality, East Indies).

Material.—4 exs., Stn. 2, Bulbulchandi fish market, purchased from fishermen on bank of River Tengan, 31. i. 1970; 1 ex., Stn. 14, River Jamuna at Hilli Village, 24 km N.E. to Balurghat, 8. ii. 1970; 1 ex., Stn. 20, Jalpaiguri fish market, purchased, 14. ii. 1970.

Distribution.—Throughout India; Pakistan; Bangladesh; Burma; Thailand; Malaya; Malay Archipelago; Viet-Nam; China.

Family XVIII TETRAODONTIDAE

88. *Tetraodon cutcutia* Hamilton

1822. *Tetraodon cutcutia* Hamilton, *Fish. Ganges*, pp: 8, 362, pl. xviii, fig. 3 (type locality, Nathpur).

Material.—3 exs., Stn. 6, Aihoo village 'hat' purchased, 1. ii. 1970; 4 exs., Stn. 9, River Mahananda at Adampur village, 10 km S.E. of Malda; 1 ex., Stn. 20, Jalpaiguri fish market, purchased, 14. ii. 1970.

Distribution.—India: freshwaters of Orissa, Bengal, Assam; Bangladesh.

Family XIX OSPHRONEMIDAE

89. *Colisa chuna* (Hamilton)

1822. *Trichopodus chuna* Hamilton, *Fish. Ganges*, pp. 121, 372 (type locality, Goalpara).

Material.—1 ex., Stn. 2, Bulbulchandi, purchased from fishermen on bank of R. Tengan, 31. i. 1970.

Distribution.—India: Bengal, Assam; Bangladesh.

90. *Colisa fasciatus* (Bloch & Schneider)

1801. *Trichogaster fasciatus* Bloch & Schneider, *Syst. Ichth.*, p. 164, pl. 36 (type locality, Bengal).

Material.—1 ex., Stn. 14, River Jamuna at Hilli village, 24 km N. E. of Balurghat, 8. ii. 1970; 3 exs., Stn. 30, Khoribari fish 'hat', 44 Km S.W. of Siliguri, 20. ii. 1970.

Distribution.—Throughout India; Bangladesh; Burma.

91. *Colisa latius* (Hamilton)

1811. *Trichopodus latius* Hamilton, *Fish. Ganges*, pp. 120, 372 (type locality, Goalpara).

Material.—5 exs., Stn. 30, Khoribari fish 'hat', 44 km S.W. of Siliguri, 20. ii. 1970.

Distribution.—India: North India, along Ganga, Jamuna, Indus river systems. Pakistan: Sind.

92. *Ctenops nobilis* McClelland

1839. *Ctenops nobilis* McClelland, *Calcutta J. nat. Hist.*, 5, p. 281, pl. 21, fig. 1 (type locality, rivers at the Sikkim passes on the northern frontier of Bengal).

Materials.—1 ex., Stn. 11, River Mahananda at Malda, 5. ii. 1970; 11 exs., Stn. 13, Balurghat fish market, purchased, 8. ii. 1970; 7 exs., Stn. 18, River Atrai at Balurghat, 12. ii. 1970.

Distribution.—India: N.E. Bengal, Assam; Bangladesh.

Remarks.—The example from Stn. 20, Jalpaiguri fish market is brown with many black dots; no silvery line is present. The pectoral fin is elongated.

Family XX BELONIDAE

93. *Xenentodon cancila* (Hamilton)

1822. *Esox cancila* Hamilton, *Fish. Ganges*, pp. 213, 380, pl. 27, fig. 70 (type locality, ponds and smaller rivers of the Gangetic provinces).

Material.—7 exs., Stn. 5, confluence of River Tengan with River Mahananda at Aihoo village, 16 km S E of Malda, 1. ii. 1970; 2 exs., Stn. 10, River Kalindri at village Ratua, 38 km N.W. of Malda, 4.ii.1970.

Distribution.—Throughout India, Pakistan; Bangladesh; Sri Lanka Burma; Thailand; Malaya.

Family XXI CYPRINODONTIDAE

94. *Aplocheilus panchax* (Hamilton)

1822. *Escos panchax* Hamilton, *Fish. Ganges*, pp. 211, 380, pl. 3, fig. 69 (type locality, ditches and ponds of Bengal).

Material. —2 exs., Stn. 17, River Atrai at Gopalgunj, 25 km North of Balurghat, 11. ii. 1970.

Distribution. —India: North of Orissa. Pakistan; Bangladesh
Burma: Sri Lanka; Malaya; Malay Archipelago; Thailand.

Family XXII OPHIOCEPHALIDAE

95. *Channa punctatus* (Bloch)

1793. *Ophicephalus punctatus* Bloch, *Naturg. Ausland. fisch.*, 7, p. 139, pl. 358 (type locality, Malabar Coast).

Material. —5 exs., Stn. 2, Bulbulchandi fish 'hat', purchased from fishermen on the bank of R. Tengan, 31. i. 1970; 1 ex., Stn. 3, Aihoo village on bank of R. Tengan, purchased 31. i. 1970; 1 ex., Stn. 9, River Mahananda at Adampur village, 10 km S.E. of Malda, 3. ii. 1970; 2 exs., River Jaldhaka at Charchurabhandar, 28 km N.E. of Jalpaiguri, 16. ii. 1970.

Distribution. —Throughout India; Pakistan; Bangladesh; Sri Lanka; Burma; Malaya; China; Tahiti; Polynesia.

Family XXIII MUGILIDAE

96. *Mugil corsula* Hamilton

1822. *Mugil corsula* Hamilton, *Fish. Ganges*, pp. 221, 381, pl. 9, fig. 97 (type locality, rivers of the Gangetic provinces and in the southern parts of Bengal).

Material. —37 exs., Stn. 14, River Jamuna at village Hilli, 24 km N. E. of Balurghat, 8. ii. 1970; 1 ex., Stn. 15, River Purnabhava at Gangarampur village near road bridge, 9. ii. 1970; 3 exs., Stn. 16, River Atrai at Pugleegunj, 10 km North of Balurghat, 10. ii. 1970; 7 exs. Stn. 18, River Atrai at Balurghat, 12. ii. 1970; 1 ex., Stn. 20, Jalpaiguri fish market, purchased, 14. ii. 1970.

Distribution. —India: Rivers and estuaries of Bengal. Bangladesh: Burma.

Remarks. —Shaw and Shebbeare (1938) did not record this species.

SUMMARY

A taxonomic account of 96 species of fishes collected during a survey of North Bengal districts in February 1970 is presented in this paper. Of these 17 are new records, the most noteworthy being the rediscovery

of *Pimelodus chandramara* Hamilton, the elusive Bagrid which has been collected and reported for the first time subsequent to its original description by Hamilton 150 years ago. Notes on variations, and ecological observations are given wherever necessary.

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