



## North Eastern Regional Centre

Zoological Survey of India, Shillong, Meghalaya



Government of India  
Ministry of Environment and Forests

North East India represents the transition zone between the Indian, Indo-Malayan, Indo-Chinese biogeographic regions as well as a meeting place of Himalayan Mountains with Peninsular India. The region is a geographical 'gateway' for much of India's flora and fauna and contains more than one-third of the Country's total biodiversity. The area forms one of the 34 globally recognised biodiversity hotspots.

The North Eastern Regional Centre, Shillong is the 1st of the 16 Regional Centres of the Zoological Survey of India (ZSI). It was established on 6th March, 1959. Since its inception the Centre is engaged in exploring and documenting the diverse faunal resources of North East India. The jurisdictional limit of the Centre includes the states of Assam, Manipur, Nagaland, Mizoram, Meghalaya and Tripura.



> Environmental Impact Assessment on Dhaleswari H.E. Project, Mizoram (Brahmaputra Board)-1998; Kopili H.E. Project, Um-rongso, N.C. Hills District, Assam and Jaintia Hills District, Meghalaya-1998; Myntdu-Leishka H.E. Project, Jaintia Hills District, Meghalaya-1999; Kulsi Multipurpose H.E. Project, Kamrup District, Assam (Brahmaputra Board)-2002; Jadukata Multipurpose H.E. Project, West Khasi Hills District, Meghalaya (Brahmaputra Board)-2002; Lower Subansiri H.E. Project Dhemaji District, Assam-2005.

### Major Programmes undertaken

- > Study on the fish fauna of Tirap Frontier Division (N.E.F.A.)
- > Study of aquatic and terrestrial mollusca of Assam
- > Systematic studies on the spider fauna of Khasi and Jaintia Hills
- > Systematic studies on the dung-beetles (Coleoptera : Copri-dae) and crickets (Orthoptera:Gryllidae) of Meghalaya
- > Systematic studies on the reptile fauna of Khasi and Jaintia hills, Meghalaya.
- > Systematics of the Lepidoptera of Khasi hills and Jaintia hills, Meghalaya and life history studies on some selected species.
- > Studies on the Odonata fauna of Assam with special reference to Meghalaya.
- > Studies on Crustacea, Decapoda (Shrimps and Crabs) of Meghalaya with special reference to Garo hills.
- > Taxonomy and bionomics of Simuliidae (Diptera: Insecta) of the N.E. Himalayas.
- > Studies on the Gryllid (Insecta: Orthoptera) fauna of North East India.
- > Studies on the soil-micro-arthropods of N.E. India with special reference to Meghalaya.
- > Studies on Formicidae (Insecta : Hymenoptera) of N.E. India with special reference to Meghalaya.
- > An ecological and behavioral study of Hoolock gibbon in Garo Hills, Meghalaya.
- > Species diversity and distribution of zooplankton in N.E. India.
- > Studies on the animal diversity of proposed Saipung/Narpuh Wildlife Sanctuary, Jaintia Hills, Meghalaya.
- > Faunal diversity of Baghmara Reserve Forest, South Garo Hills District, Meghalaya.
- > Taxonomic studies on the lower vertebrates of Nagaland.
- > Taxonomy and Ecology of freshwater insects of Jaintia Hills & East Khasi Hills districts of Meghalaya
- > Taxonomic studies on little known amphibian species of North East India.
- > Pictorial hand book on the Amphibia of N.E. India.



### Major scientific contributions

#### New discoveries

Over 54 species (Fishes, Amphibia, Insecta, Crustacea and Arachnida) were described as new to science by the scientists of the Centre.

#### Rediscovery

Two species of Amphibia, *Micrixalus borealis* and *Rhacophorus naso* were rediscovered from Meghalaya and Mizoram respectively.

### Available Taxonomic Expertise

Taxonomic expertise on Pisces, Amphibia, Reptilia and Insecta are available currently at the Centre.



### National Zoological Collection (NZC)

The NZCs maintained at the Centre contain 82,398 identified specimens, including both vertebrates and invertebrates. The collection also includes 45 holotypes and 298



### Modern Infrastructure and Advanced Research facilities

The Centre is equipped with the compact Insect Storage system for housing insect collections. The Leica M205A automated stereomicroscope, with attached high definition camera and montage software was added to the Centre recently.



For more details visit <http://www.zsi.gov.in>

Published by the Director, Zoological Survey of India, Prani Vigyan Bhawan, M-Block, New Alipore, Kolkata-700 053. Phone : +91-33-2400 6893 / 2498 6820

### Publications

10 books and 261 research papers were published in various National/International journals by the scientists of the Centre.

- > Lizards from North-Eastern India.
- > On a collection of snakes from North-East India (Reptilia : serpentes).
- > The fauna of Siju Cave.
- > Tephritidae (Diptera:Insecta) of Namdapha
- > Fish geography of Meghalaya.
- > Studies on some biology of Indian spiders.
- > Faunal Diversity of Saipung Wildlife Sanctuary/Narpuh Reserve Forest, Jaiñtia Hills, Meghalaya.
- > Rotifer diversity (Rotifera : Eurotatoria) of floodplain lakes of Pabitora Wildlife sanctuary, Assam.
- > Butterflies of Shillong and its Environs.
- > Studies on lower vertebrates of Nagaland.
- > Studies on little known Amphibian species of North East India.
- > Faunal diversity of Baghmara Reserve forest, Meghalaya.
- > Pictorial hand book on Amphibia of North east India.



### Library

The library of the Centre has acquired 2,761 books and 14 journals/periodicals are subscribed.

### Museum

The Museum of the Centre is exhibiting the representative fauna of North east India for generating public awareness towards biodiversity conservation.

### Other Extension activities

The Centre renders identification and advisory services to students, researchers and scientists of other institutes.

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