

## AN ACCOUNT OF THE MAMMALIAN FAUNA OF CHANDAKA WILDLIFE SANCTUARY, ORISSA

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### INTRODUCTION

Chandaka Wildlife Sanctuary (Map-1) is situated in Cuttack and Khurda district of Orissa, covering an area of 193.39 sq. km. (including the mining area) and lies between latitudes 20° 16' 05" to 20° 26' 03" N and longitudes 85° 34' 42" to 85° 49' 30" E. Chandaka-Dampara forest was declared a Wildlife Sanctuary during 1983-84. It is very close (25 km North-east) to the capital city of Bhubaneswar and can be approached by road via Khandagiri.

In connection with the study of elephants in Chandaka Sanctuary, the authors visited the area many times between January, 1995 to June, 1997. The present paper is an attempt to provide a checklist of the mammalian fauna of the sanctuary as no list of the mammalian species of the Sanctuary is available till date. This paper is based on a series of observations by the authors as well as by enquiring the Chandaka forest department staffs.

### TOPOGRAPHY & DRAINAGE

The terrain is generally undulating which is broken by small low hills. North-western portions of the reserve are hilly with moderate to steep slopes, whereas the eastern portion is mostly gentle to moderately slopy. The central portion is relatively flat with little undulations. The altitude ranges from 42 m (Chandaka) to 217 m (Pandari Mundia) above mean sea level (Mishra & Sarangi, 1984).

The area is drained by non-perennial streams. Soil is devoid of humus due to excessive grazing by cattles and removal of trees from many areas. Lateritic soil of various types-clay to sandy loam. Soil depth is good.

### CLIMATE

The climate is sub-tropical. Rainfall is between 1200-1400 mm. Average rainfall was 1238 mm (1994-96). The temperature varies from 10°-42° C. The area experiences three distinct seasons viz., Rainy (mid June to mid Oct.), Winter (mid Nov. to mid Jan.) and Summer (March to May).

### VEGETATION

Chandaka is a mixed tropical dry Semi-evergreen and moist deciduous type of forest where bamboo occupies more than 20% of the area. Other tree species includes *Shorea robusta*, *Cassia fistula*, *Tectona grandis*, *Grewia tiliaefolia*, *Aegle marmelosa*, *Terminalia tomentosa*, *Terminalia belarica*, *Careya aroborea*, *Xylia xylocarpa*, *Dalbergia sisso*, etc. The forest is presently covered

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mostly by shrubby/ bushy vegetation and covers more than 40% of the forest area (Roy, et. al., 1992). *Mimosa pudica* and a wide variety of grasses including *Chrysopogon aciculata*, *Typha elephantina*, *Cynodon dactylon* etc. are present which forms the food of elephants, the dominant animal species of this Sanctuary. The species marked with \* & \*\* are included in the Schedule I and Schedule II of the Indian Wildlife Act (1972), respectively. The distribution of the various species have been taken mainly from Ellerman and Morrison-Scott (1951), Pocock (1941) and Prater (1971).

#### SYSTEMATIC LIST OF MAMMALS REPORTED FROM CHANDAKA WILDLIFE SANCTUARY, ORISSA

The following species of mammals have been dealt with, in this paper.

Order : I. INSECTIVORA

Family : 1. SORICIDAE

1. *Suncus murinus* (Linnaeus)

Order : II. SCANDENTIA

Family : 2. TUPAIIDAE

2. *Anathana ellioti* (Waterhouse)

Order : III. CHIROPTERA

Suborder : (i) MEGACHIROPTERA

Family : 3. PTEROPODIDAE

3. *Rousettus leschenaulti leschenaulti* (Desmarest)

4. *Pteropus giganteus* (Brunnich)

5. *Cynopterus sphinx sphinx* (Vahl)

Suborder : (ii) MICROCHIROPTERA

Family : 4. VESPERTILIONIDAE

6. *Pipistrellus coromandra* (Gray)

Order : IV PHOLIODOTA

Family : 5. MANIDAE

7. *Manis crassicaudata* Gray

Order : V. PRIMATES

Family : 6. CERCOPITHECIDAE

8. *Macaca mulatta mulatta* (Zimmermann)

9. *Presbytis entellus* (Dufresne)

Order : VI. CARNIVORA

Family : 7. CANIDAE

10. *Vulpes bengalensis* (Shaw)

11. *Canis aureus* Linnaeus

12. *Cuon alpinus* Pallas

Family : 8. HYAENIDAE

13. *Hyaena hyaena hyaena* (Linnaeus)

Family : 9. URSIDAE

14. *Melursus ursinus ursinus* (Shaw)

Family : 10. MUSTELIDAE

15. *Mellivora capensis indica* (Kerr)

Family : 11. VIVERRIDAE

16. *Viverricula indica* (Desmarest)

17. *Paradoxurus hermaphroditus* (Pallas)

Family : 12. HERPESTIDAE

18. *Herpestes edwardsi* (Geoffroy)

19. *Herpestes auropunctatus* (Hodgson)

Family : 13. FELIDAE

20. *Felis chaus* Guldenstaedt

21. *Panthera pardus* (Linnaeus)

Order : VII. PROBOSCIDEA

Family : 14. ELEPHANTIDAE

22. *Elephas maximus indicus* G. Cuvier

Order : VIII. ARTIODACTYLA

Family : 15. SUIDAE

23. *Sus scrofa* Linnaeus.

Family : 16. CERVIDAE

24. *Muntiacus muntjak* (Zimmermann)

25. *Axis axis axis* (Erxleben)

26. *Cervus unicolor* (Kerr)

Family : 17. TRAGULIDAE

27. *Tragulus meminna* (Erxleben)

Order : IX. RODENTIA

Family : 18. MURIDAE

28. *Rattus blanfordi* (Thomas)

29. *Rattus rattus* (Linnaeus)

30. *Mus booduga* (Gray)

31. *Golunda ellioti* Gray

32. *Bandicota bengalensis* (Gray & Hardwicke)

33. *Bandicota indica* (Bechstein)

Family : 19. HYSTRICIDAE

34. *Hystrix indica* (Kerr)

Family : 20. SCIURIDAE

35. *Funambulus palmarum* (Linnaeus)

36. *Funambulus pennanti* Wroughton

Order : X. LAGOMORPHA

Family : 21. LEPORIDAE

37. *Lepus nigricollis* Cuvier

#### SYSTEMATIC ACCOUNT

Class : MAMMALIA

Order : I. INSECTIVORA

Family : 1 SORICIDAE

##### 1. *Suncus murinus* (Linnaeus)

*Common name* : House shrew (Eng); Chuchundar (Hindi); Chucho (Beng); Chuchundra (Oriya).

*Distribution* : India : They have been recorded in West Bengal, Orissa, Bihar, Assam, Uttar Pradesh, Madhya Pradesh, Rajasthan, Punjab, etc.

Elsewhere : Sri Lanka, Pakistan, Nepal, Bangladesh, Bhutan, China, Burma,

Vietnam, Thailand, Malaysia, Indonesia, Palestine and Egypt.

*Remarks* : Common species in Chandaka, particularly near Rest houses and Beat offices. Spotted at Jhalara, Ambilo, Godibari, Dahanigarhia and Kumarkhundi.

Order : II. SCANDENTIA

Family : 2. TUPAIIDAE

2. *Anathana ellioti* (Waterhouse)

*Common name* : Indian tree shrew (Eng.); Bana chuchundra (Oriya).

*Distribution* : India : It is found in both the dry and moist deciduous forests of peninsular India, South of the Ganges.

Elsewhere : Burma.

*Remarks* : Not common; found in bushes, crevices or under litter in forest, looking for food. Spotted near roadside bushes on way to Nuakua.

Order : III. CHIROPTERA

Suborder : MEGACHIROPTERA

Family : 3. PTEROPODIDAE

3. *Rousettus leschenaulti leschenaulti* (Desmarest)

*Common name* : Indian Fulvous fruit bat (Eng.); Chalta Badur (Beng.); Badudi (Oriya).

*Distribution* : India : Kumaon, Peninsular India, West Bengal, Western Ghats.

Elsewhere : Nepal, Bhutan, Burma, Bangladesh, Vietnam, Kampuchea, Thailand, Laos and Java.

*Remarks* : Common. Spotted near Godibari gate, Jhalara, and Ambakhali temple.

4. *Pteropus giganteus* (Brunnich)

*Common name* : Indian flying fox (Eng.); Gadai (Hindi); Badur (Beng.); Badudi (Oriya).

*Distribution* : India : Widely distributed in peninsular India, northward upto Rajasthan, Punjab, Kumaon, Sikkim, Manipur and Assam.

Elsewhere : Nepal, Bhutan, Bangladesh, Burma, and Sri Lanka.

*Remarks* : Roosts were noticed on bamboo brakes. Spotted near Bhallumundia, Deras Dam, Jhalara and Nuakua.

5. *Cynopterus sphinx sphinx* (Vahl)

*Common name* : Short-nosed Fruit Bat (Eng.).

*Distribution* : India : Widely distributed in the Indian Union, north to Jammu and east to Nagaland. Also reported from Andaman Nicobar Island (Das *et al.*, 1991).

Elsewhere : Pakistan, Nepal, Tibet, Bangladesh, Bhutan, Burma and Sri Lanka.

*Remarks* : Seen in small group (3-4) on trees and rocky caves. Spotted near Bansberna and Bualigarh in the evening hours.

Suborder : MICROCHIROPTERA

Family : 4. VESPERTILIONIDAE

**6. *Pipistrellus coromandra* (Gray)**

*Common name* : Indian Pipistrelle (Eng.); Chemina (Oriya).

*Distribution* : India : Peninsular India, north to Jammu and Kashmir, east to Northeastern states, also Car Nicobar Island.

Elsewhere : Southern China, Hainan, Indo-China, Burma, Bhutan Duars and Iran.

*Remarks* : Very common; seen flying in open air near Ambilo, Jhalara, Godibari, Kochilabarna, Kumarkhundi, Naharthali and Dhobabandh.

Order : IV. PHOLIODOTA

Family : 5. MANIDAE

**7. *Manis crassicaudata* Gray \* (Plate-1)**

*Common name* : Indian Pangolin (Eng.); Bonrui (Beng.); Surajmukhi (Hindi); Bajrakapta (Oriya).

*Distribution* : India : Indian Pangolin inhabits the plains and lower slopes of the hills of India south of Himalayas, Peninsular India, West Bengal, Lower Assam, Dehradun, Gwalior, Madras and Mysore.

Elsewhere : Pakistan, Bangladesh, China and Sri Lanka (Inskipp & Barzdo).

*Remarks* : Lives in burrows digged in the ground & in crevices. Ones spotted near Ambakhali on road.

Order : V. PRIMATES

Family : 6. CERCOPITHECIDAE

**8. *Macaca mulatta mulatta* (Zimmermann) \*\***

*Common name* : Rhesus macaque (Eng.); Bandar (Hindi and Beng.); Pati mankada (Oriya).

*Distribution* : India : The Himalayas, Assam and Northern and Central India and in South upto river Tapti in west and Godavari in east.

Elsewhere : Burma, Nepal, Bangladesh, Bhutan, Indo-China, Thailand, Laos, Vietnam, Kampuchea.

*Remarks* : Very common species in the sanctuary. More than 7 troops have been spotted.

9. *Presbytis entellus* (Dufresne) \*\* (Plate 2)

*Common name* : Common langur (Eng.); Hanuman (Hindi & Beng.); Hanuman makada (Oriya).

*Distribution* : India : Whole of India from Himalayas to cape Comorin, except the western deserts.

Elsewhere : Bangladesh, Sri Lanka, southern Tibet.

*Remarks* : Common. Spotted near Ambilo, Jantarimundia, on way to Jhumka, Barachuria mundia, Kumarkhundi, Naharthali.

Order : VI. CARNIVORA

Family : 7. CANIDAE

10. *Vulpes bengalensis* (Shaw)

*Common name* : Bengal Fox or Indian Fox (Eng.); Lomri (Hindi); Khek-siyal (Beng); Kodisiali (Oriya).

*Distribution* : India : The whole of India from the foothills of the Himalayas to Cape comorin.

Elsewhere : Nepal, Pakistan and Bangladesh.

*Remarks* : Common and can be seen on road sides during the evening and morning hours. Spotted near Deras, Jhalara, Nuakua, Behentashi, Kheluachua, Ambakhali temple and Dahanigarhia.

11. *Canis aureus* Linnaeus

*Common name* : Asiatic Jackal (Eng.); Gidhar (Hindi); Shial (Beng); Siali, Bilua (Oriya).

*Distribution* : India : Throughout the Indian mainland.

Elsewhere : Southwestern, Central and Southern Asia to Thailand including Sri Lanka, Northern and Eastern Africa, south to Senegal, Nigeria and Tanzania, Southeastern Europe.

*Remarks* : Not very common. Reported by forest staff from Nuakua.

12. *Cuon alpinus* Pallas\*\*

*Common name* : Indian wild Dog (Eng.); Dhole or Jungle Kutha (Hindi); Balia Kukura (Oriya).

*Distribution* : In India they occur in Himalayan zone and peninsular India.

Elsewhere : Central and Eastern Asia from the Altai mountain and Manchuria southward through the forest regions of India and Malayan countries.

*Remarks* : A group of 3 animals were spotted near Kheluachua.

Family : 8. HYAENIDAE

13. *Hyaena hyaena hyaena* (Linnaeus)

*Common name* : Stripped hyaena (Eng.); Hundar/Lakkar baghar (Hindi); Heta Bagha, Hunda (Oriya).

*Distribution* : India : They are reported from Kashmir to Nepal terai, Sind, Cutch, southwards to Nilgiri hills, peninsular India and adjoining areas.

Elsewhere : South Russia, Iran and Iraq.

*Remarks* : Not very common. Spotted on way to Deras from Jhalara.

Family : 9. URSIDAE

14. *Melursus ursinus ursinus* (Shaw) \*

*Common name* : Sloth bear (Eng.); Bhalu (Hindi & Beng.); Bhalu/Bhalluka (Oriya)

*Distribution* : India : From the base of Himalayas to Assam, Bihar, Orissa, and Peninsular India.

*Remarks* : Moderately common. Found on hill tops among the bushes and rocks of Bhallumundia. Also reported from Baramundia (Barapita RF), Jantaria mundia and Sanchuria mundia

Family : 10. MUSTELIDAE

15. *Mellivora capensis indica* (Kerr) \* (Plate 3)

*Common name* : Ratel or Honey Badger (Eng.); Bejoo (Hindi); Gadabhalu (Oriya).

*Distribution* : India : From the base of Himalaya to Cape Comorin.

Elsewhere : Southwestern Russia and Turkestan.

*Remarks* : Moderately common. Spotted in Jhalara and Baramundia (Barapita RF).

Family : 11. VIVERRIDAE

16. *Viverricula indica* (Desmarest)

*Common name* : Small Indian civet (Eng.); Kasturi (Hindi); Gandhogakul (Beng); Saliapatini (Oriya).

*Distribution* : India : Widely distributed throughout the Indian mainland except deserts of Rajasthan.

Elsewhere : Southern China, Sri Lanka, Bhutan, Burma, Indo-China, Siam, Sumatra, Java and Bali.

*Remarks* : Seen in the bushes and in the villages at the periphery of the forest. Spotted at Dahanigarhia, Jhalara and near Kalajhar village.

17. *Paradoxurus hermaphroditus* (Pallas)

*Common name* : Common Palm civet or Toddy cat (Eng.); Lakati, Khatus (Hindi); Baghda (Beng); Dali Odha (Oriya).

*Distribution* : India : Kashmir, the Himalayas and Assam, Southwards through whole of the Peninsular region.

Elsewhere : Southern China, Burma, Indo-China, Siam, Malay States, Sumatra,



Java and Borneo, Philippines and Sri Lanka.

*Remarks* : Common. Spotted at Jhalara, Deras, Pithakhia, Naharthali, etc.

Family : 12. HERPESTIDAE<sup>3</sup>

18. *Herpestes edwardsi* (Geoffroy)

*Common name* : Common mongoose (Eng.); Newla (Hindi); Hatia Neula, (Oriya); Beji (Beng).

*Distribution* : India : North-west Frontier, Assam, southwards over Peninsular India to Cape Comorin.

Elsewhere : Iran, Iraq, Afghanistan, Pakistan, Nepal, Sri Lanka.

*Remarks* : Diurnal and frequently seen on roadside near spring of Jhalara, Ambilo, Deras, Nuakua, Godibari, etc.

19. *Herpestes auropunctatus* (Hodgson)

*Common name* : Small Indian Mongoose (Eng.); Kuji Neula (Oriya).

*Distribution* : India : Kashmir, south to Gujarat, Madhya Pradesh, Bihar, West Bengal, Orissa and Assam.

Elsewhere : Northern Arabia, Iran, Iraq, Afghanistan, Nepal, Burma, Siam and Malay States.

*Remarks* : Diurnal and lives in holes; seen near the bushes of Ambilo, Jhalara and Pithakhia.

Family : 13. FELIDAE

20. *Felis chaus* Guldenstaedt

*Common name* : Jungle cat (Eng.); Jangali Billi (Hindi); Bano billar (Beng); Bana Bhuan (Oriya)

*Distribution* : India : From Himalaya to Cape Comorin.

Elsewhere : Widely distributed from North Africa through South-western Asia to India, Sri Lanka, Burma and Indo-China

*Remarks* : Seen in the scrubby areas of the forest and is not very common. Spotted near Baramundia and Bhallumundia.

21. *Panthera pardus* (Linnaeus) \* (Plate 4)

*Common name* : Leopard (Eng.); Chita bagh or sona chita (Hindi); Chita bagh (Beng); Kalara-patria bagh, Pendra (Oriya).

*Distribution* : India : Occurs throughout the country.

Elsewhere : Southwestern Turkestan, Siberia, China, Tibet, Nepal, Burma, Sri Lanka, Malayan countries, Arab, Iran, Egypt, Algeria, Morocco and Tropical Africa.

*Remarks* : Few adults and cubs are present, mostly in and around Ambilo, Jhalara, Ambakhali, Kumarkhundi and Sanchuria mundia.

Order : VII. PROBOSCIDEA

Family : 14. ELEPHANTIDAE

22. *Elephas maximus indicus* G. Cuvier \* (Plate 5)

*Common name* : Indian Elephant (Eng.); Hathi (Hindi, Beng, Oriya).

*Distribution* : India : Occurs in the North-east India, foothills of Himalaya in the Terai region of Uttar Pradesh, Orissa, Bihar, West Bengal, Tamil Nadu, Karnataka, Kerala.

Elsewhere : Bangladesh, Burma, Brunei, China, Indonesia, Kamphuchea, Laos, Malaysia, Nepal, Thailand and Vietnam (Sukumar, 1989).

*Remarks* : It is the most important species of the Sanctuary and its present population is around 70 as estimated from census by the first author and Chandaka Sanctuary staffs. It has been spotted in almost all the areas of the Sanctuary and during the paddy season in the peripheral area of the forest.

Order : VIII. ARTIODACTYLA

Family : 15. SUIDAE

23. *Sus scrofa* Linnaeus (Plate 6)

*Common name* : Indian Wild Boar (Eng.); Jangali Suar (Hindi); Buno Suar (Beng); Barha (Oriya).

*Distribution* : India : Occurs throughout the country.

Elsewhere : Widely distributed throughout the world; Burma, Tennaserim, Siam, part of Malay Peninsular, Pakistan, Nepal, Bangladesh and Sri Lanka.

*Remarks* : The sanctuary has a good population of this species. They dig the soil surface in search of food. Seen near Ambilo, Koduamundia, Kheluachua, Ambakhali and Jantari mundia. They are found throughout the Sanctuary.

Family : 16. CERVIDAE

24. *Muntiacus muntjak* (Zimmermann) (Plate 7)

*Common name* : Barking Deer (Eng.); Kakar (Hindi); Kutura (Oriya).

*Distribution* : India : Peninsular India, Uttar Pradesh, Assam and Malabar coast of South India.

Elsewhere : Southern China, Indo-China, Siam, Malay states, Nepal, Burma, Sri Lanka, Sumatra, Java, Borneo and adjacent Islands.

*Remarks* : They are quite common, diurnal in habit and distinct male and female call can be heard in night. Spotted at Ambilo, Kumarkhundi and Jantari mundia.

25. *Axis axis axis* (Erxleben) (Plate 8)

*Common name* : Spotted Deer (Eng.); Chital (Hind & Beng); Chitala (male) and Nandi (female) (Oriya).

**Distribution** : India : Throughout the Indian mainland except the northeastern region, Jammu & Kashmir, Himachal Pradesh.

Elsewhere : Nepal and Bangladesh.

**Remarks** : Very common throughout the forest and they can be seen in group during early morning and evening. Spotted in almost the entire region of the forest.

#### 26. *Cervus unicolor* (Kerr)

**Common name** : Sambar (Eng., Hindi, Beng., Oriya).

**Distribution** : India : Forested area of India.

Elsewhere : Sri Lanka, Burma, Malay countries, Indo-China, Siam, Sumatra, Java, Borneo, Celebes and eastward to Philippines and beyond.

**Remarks** : Very rare. Only one spotted by forest staff.

Family : 17. TRAGULIDAE

#### 27. *Tragulus meminna* (Erxleben) \*

**Common name** : Indian Chevrotain, Mouse Deer (Eng.); Pisora (Hindi); Gurundi (Oriya).

**Distribution** : India : Occurs throughout the Peninsular India, the northern limit being Rajasthan and Bihar (Das et. al., 1991).

Elsewhere : Sri Lanka and Nepal.

**Remarks** : Moderate. Spotted in and around Ambilo, Godibari, Pandari mundia and Barachudia mundia.

Order : IX. RODENTIA

Family : 18. MURIDAE

#### 28. *Rattus blanfordi* (Thomas)

**Common name** : White tailed wood rat (Eng.).

**Distribution** : India : Maharashtra, Goa, Karnataka, Kerala, Tamil Nadu, Andhra Pradesh, Madhya Pradesh, Orissa, Bihar and West Bengal.

Elsewhere : Sri Lanka.

**Remarks** : Moderately common. Spotted near bamboo and scrubby area of Ambilo.

#### 29. *Rattus rattus* (Linnaeus)

**Common name** : Common House Rat (Eng.); Musa (Oriya).

**Distribution** : India : Throughout the Indian mainland.

Elsewhere : In almost all part of the world.

*Remarks* : Common. Spotted near Ambilo tower, Jhalara, Godibari, Dampara Guest House and other fringe areas of the forest.

### 30. *Mus booduga* (Gray)

*Common name* : Little Indian Field mouse (Eng).

*Distribution* : India : Throughout the country.

Elsewhere : Nepal, Pakistan, Burma and Sri Lanka.

*Remarks* : Common. Spotted near Jhalara, Deras, Kalajhar, Behantashi, Dampara, Godibari, Kumarkundi, etc.

### 31. *Golunda ellioti* Gray

*Common name* : Indian Bush rat (Eng).

*Distribution* : India : Throughout Indian mainland.

Elsewhere : Nepal, Pakistan, Bhutan and Sri Lanka.

*Remarks* : Moderate. Spotted mostly in and around Ambilo, Jhalara and Dampara.

### 32. *Bandicota bengalensis* (Gray & Hardwicke)

*Common name* : Indian mole Rat or Lesser Bandicoot Rat (Eng.); Gatua musa (Oriya).

*Distribution* : India : Peninsular region, northward to Kathiawar, Sind, Punjab, Kashmir and Assam.

Elsewhere : Sri Lanka, Burma, Nepal, Sumatra and Java.

*Remarks* : Common and can be seen near Beat Offices and Watch Towers and in fringe areas of the forest.

### 33. *Bandicota indica* (Bechstein)

*Common name* : Large Bandicoot Rat (Eng.); Musa (Oriya).

*Distribution* : India : Peninsular India, Uttar Pradesh, Delhi, Gujarat, West Bengal, Assam, Tamil Nadu, Karnataka and Nilgiri Hills.

Elsewhere : Nepal, Burma, Indo-China, Siam, Java, Sumatra and Hong Kong.

*Remarks* : Common. Generally seen in the fringe areas of the forest near the villages. Also spotted near Nuakua, Pithakhia and Ambakhali temple.

Family : 19. HYSTRICIDAE

### 34. *Hystrix indica* (Kerr)

*Common name* : Indian crested Porcupine (Eng.); Siyal, Sahi (Hindi); Sajaru (Beng); Jhinka (Oriya).

*Distribution* : India : Throughout India.

Elsewhere : Sri Lanka, Nepal, Afghanistan, Iran, Iraq, Palestine, Syria, Egypt, Southern and Eastern Russia.

**Remarks** : Moderately common. Seen on hill top on rocks and in caves. Spotted near Ambakhali temple, Kheluachua and Bhallumundia.

Family : 20. SCIURIDAE

35. *Funambulus palmarum* (Linnaeus)

**Common name** : Three striped palm squirrel (Eng.); Gilheri (Hindi); Kat Berali (Beng); Patta musa (Oriya).

**Distribution** : India : West Bengal, Bihar, Orissa, Andhra Pradesh, Tamil Nadu, Kerala, Karnataka and Maharashtra.

Elsewhere : Sri Lanka (Das et. al., 1991).

**Remarks** : Common and can be seen on trees and ground in almost all the areas of the Sanctuary.

36. *Funambulus pennanti* Wroughton

**Common name** : Five striped palm squirrel (Eng.); Gilheri (Hindi); Kat Berali (Beng); Patta musa (Oriya).

**Distribution** : India : whole of North India, the southern limits being Maharashtra and northern portion of Andhra Pradesh, Orissa.

Elsewhere : Pakistan, Nepal and Bangladesh.

**Remarks** : Not seen in the dense forest but in the fringe area of the forest near villages. Spotted near Deras and Dahanigarhia village.

Order : X. LAGOMORPHA

Family : 21. LEPORIDAE

37. *Lepus nigricollis* Cuvier

**Common name** : Indian Hare (Eng.); Khargosh (Hindi and Beng); Thekua (Oriya).

**Distribution** : India : Peninsular India, West Bengal, Sikkim, Assam, Punjab, Sind, Cutch and Kathiawar.

Elsewhere : Sri Lanka, Java, Nepal and Bhutan Duars.

**Remarks** : Very common and are seen in grasslands and cultivated lands nearby. Spotted on way to Behantasia, Ambakhali and near Bholi village.

SUMMARY

The present paper deals with 10 orders of mammalia, spread over 21 families, 33 genera and 37 species. This is a first attempt to provide a checklist of the Mammalian fauna of this Sanctuary.

Family Muridae is represented by 6 species and Family Pteropodidae, Canidae and Cervidae by 3 species each, but other families have lesser representation.

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