



## A CHECKLIST OF FISH AND CRUSTACEANS OF THE SOUTH-WEST COAST OF BANGLADESH

Shah, M.S\* and Hossain, M.H.

*Fisheries and Marine Resource Technology Discipline, Khulna University, Khulna 9208, Bangladesh*

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**Abstract:** The study was based on the preparation of a list of fish and crustacean species available in the South-west coastal areas of Bangladesh and aimed at establishing a museum at the Fisheries and Marine Resource Technology (FMRT) Discipline. Such a museum in the Discipline was thought to be useful for the teachers, students and researchers in the areas of fisheries management and fish culture. The collections were made from all over the places of rural and urban markets of Khulna, Bagerhat and Satkhira; from fish landing ghats and from fishermen boats of Mongla, Dacope and Khulna. A list of 137 species of fish and belonging to 16 Orders, 69 Families and 106 Genera was produced. The crustaceans were 9 Species belonging to the single Order, Decapoda consisting of 4 Families and 6 Genera. The specimens were identified using standard keys, preserved in 10% formalin, labeled and shelved in the museum of FMRT Discipline. The list, however, was not an exhaustive one. Because the collection could not be made from the offshore areas, it was not possible to include many of the rare and unconventional species of fish and crustaceans from the offshore waters. The museum established, it is hoped, will play a due role in fisheries teaching and research.

**Key words:** Fish, Crustacean, Taxonomy, Sundarbans, Bangladesh

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### Introduction

The South–West region of the country has come out as an important fisheries area in the country. The brackish water shrimp cultivation in the recent years has experienced a rapid increase in the coastal bheries of the area. A total of about 1, 30, 000 ha coastal land is being used for shrimp cultivation. The world famous mangrove forest – the Sundarbans is located in this area. The Sundarbans supports a huge breeding and nursery ground of a large group of offshore and deep-sea fin fishes and crustaceans. A huge scale of resource depletion takes place every year in the estuarine waters in the area in the form of larvae and juveniles of the fin fishes and crustaceans during the collection of *Penaeus monodon* larvae. Chaudhury (1990) reported that there is a loss of up to 73% other shrimp larvae and 24% fish larvae for collection of 3% bagda fry through the present system of shrimp seed collection from the Sundarbans mangrove area.

The information on the diversity of fish and crustaceans in the coastal waters of the country is scarce. Reports on the species availability in the Sundarban waters are available from a few studies so far made (Acharya and Kamal, 1994; Seidensticker and Hai, 1978; and Anon, 1994 and Bernacsek, 2000). Biodiversity in the form of both species diversity and genetic diversity is a broad reflection of the geographical/ecological diversity of an area. It is said that heterogeneity in the environment is reflected in the variable form of organisms. Thus the more heterogeneous the

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\* Corresponding author:

ecological conditions are, more variable the populations are (Lewontin, 1957 and Dobzhansky *et al.*, 1977) The fish and crustacean species available in the south-west coastal areas are diverse ones and this is clearly evident from the unique heterogeneity of the area and the mangrove Sundarbans is definitely a prime determinant. Bangladesh is a land of waters. It abounds with a large variety of species. Rahman (1989) reported 260 species of fish from Bangladesh waters. His list does not include species from the estuarine and offshore waters excepting a few that often enter in the freshwater rivers. He suggested the need for careful collection and systematic study of the species available in the estuarine waters. Shah (2003) stressed the necessity for research on the fishery resources identification of the Sundarbans. The Fisheries and Marine Resource Technology Discipline of University has linkages with the out field activities targeted for management and conservation of the resources. It does not have an informative museum of species of fish and crustacean available in this region. For sustainable management and conservation of resources, a knowledge on the diversity of the fish and crustaceans available in the waters is utmost important.

The present study was aimed at establishing a museum of the species of fish and shellfish available in the region. Collection of specimens was made from all over the places of rural and urban markets of Khulna, Satkhira and Bagerhat; from fish landing ghats and from fishermen boats from Mongla, Dacope and Khulna. The specimens were identified using standard identification keys, labeled, preserved in 10% formalin and shelved in the museum of the Fisheries and Marine Resource Technology Discipline. A total of 137 species of fin fish 9 species of crustaceans belonging to 17 Orders, 73 Families and 112 Genera were identified from the collection. The museum established, it is expected, would serve the important purpose of education and research in fisheries, in the areas of the country.

## **Materials and Methods**

The study was carried out over a period of six months from August, 2002 to January, 2003. The collection was made from the coastal districts of Khulna, Satkhira and Bagerhat. Several visits were made to the fish markets and fish landing centers of Khulna, Satkhira and Bagerhat for collection of specimen. The specimen were carefully packed in carrier box and brought to the laboratory for identification and preservation. They were identified with the help of keys as provided by Rahman (1989), Munro (2000) and FishBase (2007). They were kept in glass jars, with 10% formalin, properly labeled with number and shelved in the museum. To prevent the specimen from getting bended in the jar, the bigger specimens were rested on a strip of glass and fixed with a thread. Also for better preservation glycerin was added with the formalin to neutralize it.

## **Results**

The study on the collection and identification resulted with a list of 137 species of fin fish belonging to 16 Orders, 71 Families and 106 Genera. The crustaceans were of 9 species under a single Order, 4 Families, and 6 Genera. Classification was done after FishBase (2007), Munro (2000) and Rahman (1989). The following is the list of the specimens. The species have been preserved with mainly single specimen and conserved in the museum of FMRT Discipline.

## Fish

Class: Elasmobranchii

Subclass: Selachii

Order: Rajiformes

Family: Rhinobatidae

Genus: *Rhinobatos*

Species: *Rhinobatos granulatus* (Cuvier, 1829)

Local name: Pitambori

Genus: *Rhynchobatus*

Species: *Rhynchobatus djiddensis* (Forsskal, 1775)

Local name: Dagi pitambori

Family: Trygonidae

Genus: *Gymnura*

Species: *Gymnura poecilura* (Shaw, 1804)

Local name: Projapati ray

Genus: *Dasyatis*

Species: *Dasyatis zugei* (Muller and Henle, 1841)

Local name: Sapla pata

Order: Lamniformes

Family: Carcharinidae

Genus: *Scoliodon*

Species: *Scoliodon laticaudus* (Muller and Henle, 1841)

Local name: Hangor

Species: *Rhizoprionodon acutus* (Rüppell, 1837)

Local name: Hangor

Order: Torpediniformes

Family: Torpedinidae

Genus: *Narcine*

Species: *Narcine brunnea* (Annandale, 1909)

English name: Brown electric ray

Order: Batrachoidiformes

Family – Batrachoididae

Genus: *Allenbatrachus*

Species: *Allenbatrachus grunniens*

English name: grunting toadfish

Local name- Gongonia

Class: Teleostomi

Subclass: Actinopterygii

Order: *Pleuronectiformes*

Family: Cynoglossidae

Genus: *Paraplagusia*

Species: *Paraplagusia bilineata* (Bloch, 1787)

English Name: Doublelined tonguesole

Local name- kukur jeeb

Order: Symbranchiformes

Family: Symbranchidae

Genus: *Monopterus*

Species: *Monopterus cuchia* (Hamilton, 1822)

English Name: Cuchia

Local name: Kucha

Order: Anguilliformes

Family: Muraenidae

Genus: *Gymnothorax*

Species: *Gymnothorax thyrsoides* (Richardson, 1845)

English Name: Greyface Moray

Family: Moringuidae

Genus: *Moringua*

Species- *Moringua raitaboura* (Hamilton, 1822)

English Name: Purple Spaghetti Eel

Local name- Rata boura

Order: Tetradontiformes

Family: Legocephalidae

Genus: *Lagocephalus*

Species: *Lagocephalus lunaris* (Bloch & Schneider, 1801)

English Name: Green Rough-backed Puffer

Family: Tetraodontidae

Genus: *Tetraodon*

Species: *Tetraodon cutcutia* (Hamilton, 1822)

English Name: Ocellated Pufferfish

Local name: Tapa

Order: Beloniformes

Family: Belonidae

Genus: *Strongylura*

Species: *Strongylura Strongylura* (van Hasselt, 1823)

Local name: Fota leja Kakila

Genus: *Strongylura*

Species: *Strongylura leiura* (Bleeker, 1850)

Family: Hemirhamphidae

Genus: *Hyporhamphus*

Species: *Hyporhamphus quoyi* (Valenciennes, 1847)

Local name: Ek thuta

Genus: *Hyporhamphus*

Species: *Hyporhamphus xanthopterus* (Valenciennes, 1847)

Local name: Ek thuta

Order: Cyprinodontiformes

Family: Cyprinodontidae

Genus: *Aplocheilus*

Species: *Aplocheilus panchax* (Hamilton, 1822)

Local name: Kanpona, Tinchouka

Order: Channiformes

Family: Channidae

Genus: *Channa*

Species: *Channa punctata* (Bloch, 1793)

Local name: Taki

Species: *Channa orientalis* (Bloch & Schneider, 1801)

Local name: Cheng, Gachua

Species: *Channa striata* (Bloch, 1793)

Local name: Shol

Species: *Channa barca* (Hamilton, 1822)

Local name: Tilashol, Pipla

Species: *Channa marulius* (Hamilton, 1822)

Local name: Gozar

Order: Scopeleiformes

Family: Harpodontidae

Genus: *Harpodon*

Species: *Harpodon nehereus* (Hamilton, 1822)

Local name: Loitta

Family: Engraulidae

Genus: *Thryssa*

Species: *Thryssa hamiltonii* (Grey, 1835)

Order: Mugiliformes

Family: Mugilidae

Genus: *Mugil*

Species: *Mugil cephalus* (Hamilton, 1822)

Local name: Bhangon

Genus: *Liza*

Species: *Liza parsia* (Hamilton, 1822)

Local name: Parshe

Genus: *Rhinomugil*

Species: *Rhinomugil corsula* (Hamilton, 1822)

Local name: Karsula

Order: Cypriniformes

- Suborder: Cyprinoidei  
Family: Cyprinidae  
Sub-family: Rasborinae  
Genus: *Esomus*  
Species: *Esomus danricus* (Hamilton, 1822)  
Sub-family: Cyprininae  
Genus: *Amblypharyngodon*  
Species: *Amblypharyngodon mola* (Hamilton, 1822)  
Local name: Mola, Maya  
Genus: *Puntius*  
Species: *Puntius sophore* (Hamilton, 1822)  
Local name: Puti, jatputi, vediputi  
Species: *Puntius sarana* (Hamilton, 1822)  
Local name: Sar puti  
Species: *Puntius terio* (Hamilton, 1822)  
Local name: Teri punti  
Genus: *Labeo*  
Species: *Labeo rohita* (Hamilton, 1822)  
Local name: Rohu  
Species: *Labeo bata* (Hamilton, 1822)  
Local name: Bata  
Species: *Labeo dero* (Hamilton, 1822)  
Local name- Bata  
Species: *Labeo calbasu* (Hamilton, 1822)  
Local name: Kalibaus  
Species: *Labeo boga* (Hamilton, 1822)  
Species: *Labeo pungusia* (Hamilton, 1822)  
Genus: *Cirrhinus*  
Species: *Cirrhinus cirrhosus* (Hamilton, 1822)  
Local name: Mrigal  
Species: *Labeo ariza* (Hamilton, 1807)  
Local name- Raik Bata, Bhangon bata  
Genus: *Catla*  
Species: *Catla catla* (Hamilton, 1822)  
Local name: Catla  
Family: Cobitidae  
Genus: *Lepidocephalichthys*  
Species: *Lepidocephalichthys guntea* (Hamilton, 1822)  
Local name: Gutum  
Species: *Lepidocephalichthys berdmorei* (Blyth, 1860)  
Local name: Puiya  
Genus: *Nemachilus*  
Species: *Nemachilus zonalternans* (Blyth, 1860)  
Local name: Balichata  
Genus: *Batia*  
Species: *Batia Dario* (Hamilton, 1822)  
Local name: Rani  
Sub-Order: Siluroidei  
Family: Clariidae  
Genus: *Clarias*  
Species: *Clarias batrachus* (Linnaeus, 1758)  
Local name: Magur  
Family: Siluridae  
Genus: *Wallago*  
Species: *Wallago attu* (Bloch & Schneider, 1801)  
Local name: Boal  
Genus: *Ompok*  
Species: *Ompok bimaculatus* (Bloch, 1794)  
Local name: Kani pabda.  
Species: *Ompok pabda* (Hamilton, 1822)  
Local name: pabda  
Family: Heteropneustidae

- Genus: *Heteropneustes*
  - Species: *Heteropneustes fossilis* (Bloch, 1794)
  - Local name: Shingi
- Family: Plotosidae
  - Genus: *Plotosus*
    - Species: *Plotosus canius* (Hamilton, 1822)
    - Local name: Gang magur
  - Species: *Plotosus lineatus* (Bloch, 1794)
- Family: Schilbeidae
  - Genus: *Pseudeutropius*
    - Species: *Pseudeutropius atherinoides* (Bloch, 1794)
    - Local name: Batasi
  - Genus: *Ailia*
    - Species: *Ailia coila* (Hamilton, 1822)
    - Local name: Kajuli, Baspata
  - Genus: *Silonia*
    - Species: *Silonia silondia* (Hamilton, 1822)
    - Local name: Cylinder, Shillong
  - Genus: *Clupisoma*
    - Species: *Clupisoma garua* (Hamilton, 1822)
    - Local name: Gaura
- Family: Bagridae
  - Genus: *Sperata*
    - Species: *Sperata aor* (Hamilton, 1822)
    - Local name: Ayre
  - Species: *Mystus vittatus* (Bloch, 1794)
  - Local name: Tangra
  - Species: *Mystus cavasius* (Hamilton, 1822)
  - Local name: Ghulsa tangra
  - Species: *Mystus gulio* (Hamilton, 1822)
  - Local name: Nuna tengra
- Family: Sisoridae
  - Genus: *Bagarius*
    - Species: *Bagarius bagarius* (Hamilton, 1822)
    - Local name: Baghair
- Family: Tachysuridae
  - Genus: *Batrachocephalus*
    - Species: *Batrachocephalus mino* (Hamilton, 1822)
  - Genus: *Arius*
    - Species: *Arius platystomus* (Day, 1877)
    - Local name: Med mach
  - Species: *Arius jella* (Day, 1877)
  - Genus: *Osteogeniosus*
    - Species: *Osteogeniosus militaris* (Hamilton, 1822)
- Order: Clupiformes
  - Family: Notopteridae
    - Genus: *Chital*
      - Species: *Chital chitala* (Hamilton, 1822)
      - Local name: Chital
    - Species: *Notopterus notopterus* (Pallas, 1769)
    - Local name: Foli
  - Family: Clupeidae
    - Genus: *Gonialosa*
      - Species: *Gonialosa manminna* (Hamilton, 1822)
      - Local name: Goni chapila
    - Genus: *Gudusia*
      - Species: *Gudusia chapra* (Hamilton, 1822)
      - Local name: Khaira, Chapila
    - Genus: *Tenualosa*
      - Species: *Tenualosa ilisha* (Hamilton, 1822)
      - English name: Ilish
    - Genus: *Opisthopterus*

- Species: *Opisthopterus tardoore* (Swainson, 1839)  
English name: Indian shad
  - Family: *Chirocentridae*
    - Genus: *Chirocentrus*
      - Species: *Chirocentrus dorab* (Forsskal, 1775)  
Local name: Karati chala
  - Family: *Engraulidae*
    - Genus: *Coilia*
      - Species: *Coilia ramcarati* (Hamilton, 1822)  
Local name: Olua, Megha olua
- Order: Perciformes
- Sub-order: *Anabantoidei*
    - Family: *Anabantidae*
      - Genus: *Colisa*
        - Species: *Colisa fasciata* (Bloch & Schneider, 1801)  
Local name: Khalisha
        - Species: *Colisa lalia* (Hamilton, 1822)  
Local name: Lal Khalisa
      - Genus: *Anabas*
        - Species: *Anabas testudineus* (Bloch, 1792)  
Local name: Koi
  - Sub-order: *Mastacembeloidei*
    - Family: *Mastacembelidae*
      - Genus: *Mastacembelus*
        - Species: *Mastacembelus armatus* (Lacepede, 1800)  
Local name: Sal bain
      - Genus: *Macrogathus*
        - Species: *Macrogathus pancalus* (Hamilton, 1822)  
Local name: Guchi bain
        - Species: *Macrogathus aculeatus* (Bloch, 1786)  
Local name: Tara bain
  - Sub-order: *Polynemoidei*
    - Family: *Polynemidae*
      - Genus: *Polynemus*
        - Species: *Leptomelanosoma indicum* (Shaw, 1804)  
Local name- Tairol
        - Species: *Polynemus paradiseus* (Linnaeus, 1758)  
Local name: Tapasi, Muni, Rishi
      - Genus: *Eleutheronema*
        - Species: *Eleutheronema tetradactylum*  
Local name: Tailla
  - Family: *Serranidae*
    - Genus: *Epinephelus*
      - Species: *Epinephelus malabaricus* (Bloch & Schneider, 1801)  
English Name: Malabar grouper
      - Species: *Epinephelus coioides* (Hamilton, 1822)  
English Name: Orange-spotted grouper  
Local name: Komlafota bale
- Sub-order: *Gobioidei*
- Family: *Taenioididae*
    - Genus: *Trypauchen*
      - Species: *Trypauchen vagina* (Bloch & Schneider, 1801)  
Local name: Sada chewa
    - Genus: *Taenioides*
      - Species: *Taenioides buchanani* (Day, 1873)  
English Name: Burmese gobyeel  
Local name: Raja chewa
- Family: *Gobiidae*
- Genus: *Paragobiodon*
    - Species: *Paragobiodon echinocephalus* (Rüppell, 1830)  
English Name: Redhead goby  
Local name: Bhut bele, Nondi bele

- Genus: *Brachygobius*
  - Species: *Brachygobius nusus* (Hamilton, 1822)
  - Local name: Nuna bele
- Genus: *Apocryptes*
  - Species: *Apocryptes bato* (Hamilton, 1822)
  - Local name: Gula/Dogri/Chiring
- Genus: *Gobiopsis*
  - Species: *Gobiopsis macrostoma* (Steindachner, 1860)
  - English Name: Longjaw goby
  - Local name: Bele
- Genus: *Oplopomus*
  - Species: *Oplopomus oplopomus* (Valenciennes, 1837)
  - English Name: Spinecheek goby
  - Local name: Sona bele
- Genus: *Glossogobius*
  - Species: *Glossogobius giuris* (Hamilton, 1822)
  - Local name: Bele
- Sub-order: *Percoidei*
  - Family: Sillaginidae
    - Genus: *Sillaginopsis*
      - Species: *Sillaginopsis panijus* (Hamilton, 1822)
      - English Name: Flathead sillago
      - Local name: Tular dandi
  - Family: Scatophagidae
    - Genus: *Scatophagus*
      - Species: *Scatophagus argus* (Linnaeus, 1766)
      - English Name: Spotted scat
      - Local name: Bishtara
  - Family: Teraponidae
    - Genus: *Terapon*
      - Species: *Terapon jarbua* (Forsskål, 1775)
      - English Name: Jarbua terapon
  - Family: Nandidae
    - Genus: *Nandas*
      - Species: *Nandas nandas* (Hamilton, 1822)
      - Local name: Royna, Bheda, Meni
    - Family: Centropomidae
      - Genus: *Lates*
        - Species: *Lates calcarifer* (Bloch, 1790)
        - English Name: Barramundi
        - Local name: Bhetki
    - Family: Centropomidae
      - Genus: *Chanda*
        - Species: *Chanda nama* (Hamilton, 1822)
        - Local name: Nama chanda
        - Species: *Chanda baculis* (Hamilton, 1822)
        - Local name: Chanda
        - Species: *Chanda ranga* (Hamilton, 1822)
        - Local name: Chanda
    - Family: Carangidae
      - Genus: *Carangoides*
        - Species: *Carangoides malabaricus* (Bloch & Schneider, 1801)
        - English Name: Malabar trevally
      - Genus: *Chorinemus*
        - Species: *Scomberoides lysan* (Forsskål, 1775)
        - English Name: Doublespotted queenfish
      - Genus: *Atropus*
        - Species: *Atropus atropus* (Bloch & Schneider, 1801)
        - English Name: Cleftribelly trevally
        - Local name: Kuweh
      - Genus: *Alepes*

- Species: *Alepes melanoptera* (Hamilton, 1822)  
Local name: Dora Mouri
- Family: Carangidae  
Genus: *Scomberoides*  
Species: *Scomberoides commersonianus* (Lacepède, 1801)  
English name: Talang queenfish
- Family: Pomadasysidae  
Genus: *Pomadasys*  
Species: *Pomadasys maculatus* (Bloch, 1793)  
English Name: Saddle grunt
- Family: Lutianidae  
Genus: *Lutjanus*  
Species: *Lutjanus sanguineus* (Cuvier, 1828)  
English Name: Humphead snapper  
Species: *Lutjanus johni* (Bloch, 1792)  
Local name: Patina
- Family: Gerridae  
Genus: *pentaprion*  
Species: *Pentaprion longimanus* (Cantor, 1849)  
English name: Longfin mojarra
- Family: Gerridae  
Genus: *Pertica*  
Species: *Pertica filamentosa* (Cuvier, 1828)
- Family: Haemulidae  
Genus: *Pomadasys*  
Species: *Pomadasys kaakan* (Cuvier, 1830)  
English name: Javelin grunter  
Species: *Pomadasys argyreus* (Valenciennes, 1833)  
English name: Bluecheek silver grunt  
Local name: Sada datina
- Family: Mullidae  
Genus: *Upeneus*  
Species: *Upeneus molucensis* (Bleeker, 1855)  
Species: *Upeneus vittatus* (Forsskål, 1775)  
English name: Yellowstriped goatfish
- Family: Scianidae  
Genus: *Otolithes*  
Species: *Pterotolithus maculatus* (Cuvier, 1830)  
Local name: Guti poa
- Genus: *Pennahia*  
Species: *Pennahia argentata* (Houttuyn, 1782)  
Local name: Vola
- Genus: *Johnius*  
Species: *Johnius dussumieri* (Cuvier, 1830)  
English Name: Sin croaker
- Family: Leiognathidae  
Genus: *Leiognathus*  
Species: *Leiognathus bindus* (Valenciennes, 1835)  
English Name: Orangefin ponyfish  
Local name: Comla chanda
- Family: Taenioididae  
Genus: *Odontamblyopus*  
Species: *Odontamblyopus rubicundus* (Hamilton, 1822)  
Local name: Lal chewa
- Family: Chichlidae  
Genus: *Oreochromis*  
Species: *Oreochromis niloticus* (Hamilton, 1822)  
Local name: Tilapia
- Family: Toxotidae  
Genus: *Toxotes*  
Species: *Toxotes chatareus* (Hamilton, 1822)  
Local name: Putki

- Family: Menidae
  - Genus: *Mene*
    - Species: *Mene maculata* (Bloch & Schneider, 1801)
    - Local name: Mini mach
- Family: Sparidae
  - Genus: *Rhabdosargus*
    - Species: *Rhabdosargus sarba* (Forsskal, 1775)
- Family: Pentapodidae
  - Genus: *Argyrops*
    - Species: *Argyrops spinifer* (Forsskal, 1775)
    - Local name: Lal datina
- Family: Drepanidae
  - Genus: *Drepane*
    - Species: *Drepane punctata* (Linnaeus, 1758)
    - Local name: Pan mach
- Family: Plectorhynchidae
  - Genus: *Diagramma*
    - Species: *Diagramma pictum* (Thunberg, 1792)
  
- Family: Lobotidae
  - Genus: *Datnoides*
    - Species: *Datnoides polota* (Hamilton, 1822)
- Suborder: Scombroidei
  - Family: Scombridae
    - Genus: *Rastrelliger*
      - Species: *Rastrelliger kanagurta* (Cuvier, 1816)
      - English name: Rake gilled mackerel
  - Family: Thunnidae
    - Genus: *Thunnus*
      - Species: *Thunnus tonggol* (Bleeker, 1851)
- Suborder: Stromatoidei
  - Family: Stromateidae
    - Genus: *Parastromateus*
      - Species: *Parastromateus niger* (Bloch, 1795)
      - Local name: Maissa chanda
    - Genus: *Pampus*
      - Species: *Pampus chinensis* (Euphrasen, 1788)
      - Local name: Rup Chanda
      - Species: *Pampus argenteus* (Euphrasen, 1788)
      - Local name: Foli chanda
- Suborder: Trichiuroidei
  - Family – Trichiuridae
    - Genus: *Trichiurus*
      - Species: *Trichiurus lepturus* (Linnaeus, 1758)
      - Local name: Churi
- Suborder: Tetrodontoidei
  - Family: Diodontidae
    - Genus: *Diodon*
      - Species: *Diodon hystrix* (Linnaeus, 1758)
      - English name: Spotted porcupine fish
- Suborder: Cottoidei
  - Family: Platycephalidae
    - Genus: *Thysanophrys*
      - Species: *Thysanophrys indicus* (Linnaeus, 1758)
- Order: Decapoda
  - Family: Penaeidae
    - Genus: *Penaeus*
      - Species: *Penaeus monodon*
      - Local name- Bagda
    - Genus: *Metapenaeus*
      - Species: *Metapenaeus brevicornis*

- English name: Bird shrimp
- Species: *Metapenaeus monoceros*
- Family: Palaemonidae
- Genus: *Macrobrachium*
- Species: *Macrobrachium rosenbergii* (De man)
- Local name: Golda chingri
- Species: *Macrobrachium rude*
- Local name: Golda chingri
- Species: *Macrobrachium dolichodactylus*
- Local name: Brammani chingri
- Family – Scyllaridae
- Genus: *Panulirus*
- Species: *Panulirus ornatus* (Fabricus)
- English name- Yellow ring spiny lobster
- Genus: *Thenus*
- Species: *Thenus orientalis*
- English name: Sand lobster
- Family: Portunidae
- Genus: *Scylla*
- Species: *Scylla olivaceus*
- English Name: Mud Crab
- Local name: Kankra

## Discussion

Identification of the specimen was done after Rahman (1989), Munro (2000) and FishBase (2007). From the foregoing list of the species, it is seen that the Order Perciformes was most prominent being represented with a total of 62 species. Next to this was the Cypriniformes with 37 species; the other Orders were Clupeiformes with 8 species, Channiformes with 5 species, Beloniformes and Rajiformes each with 4 species and Lamniformes and Mugiliformes each with 3 species. The Decapoda crustacean was represented with 9 species. The available information suggests that the species under the Order Perciformes are majority of estuarine and marine dwellers and since the collections were made from the coastal waters of greater Khulna region, their number was thus more represented in the study. The Order Cypriniformes, though, mainly a freshwater one, their presence in the present collection made from the fresh and semi saline waters of the region is also noteworthy.

There was a drawback in the collection process; it was not possible to make collection from the offshore/marine waters of the region, thus many of the unconventional species from the offshore waters could not be included in the collection. The fishermen catching fish from the offshore waters do not bring the species in the inland markets either; rather they discard them in the sea. Thus, if the unconventional species could be obtained, the list could have been bigger. However, because of this drawback, the number of species reported in this study could not be as high as the number of species reported by Seidensticker and Hai (1978), Anon (1974) or Bernacsek (2000) from the Sundarbans waters. Barnacsek was involved in the Sundarbans Biodiversity Conservation project. The project Head Quarter though was in Khulna, there was no available information about preservation and establishment of a museum of specimen collected by the project from the Sundarbans waters, nor were there any concerted efforts on preservation of fish or crustaceans of Sundarbans waters by anybody in the country. So, this was by far the first ever effort to establish a museum of the specimens of fish and crustaceans available in the area as a whole.

## Conclusion

The aim of the study was to collect, identify and to establish a museum of species of fish and crustaceans available in the south-west coastal region of the country. The area is rich in ecological diversity because of the presence of the Sundarbans mangrove forest. Fisheries and Marine Resource Technology Discipline in Khulna University undertakes fisheries education and research. To be able to play a role in the study of biology and systematics of the fisheries organisms, the Discipline should possess an informative museum of the species. The collection, though, had drawback in itself, resulted a list of 137 species of fin fish and 9 species of shrimp and prawn belonging to 17 Orders, 73 Families and 112 Genera. The specimen were preserved, labeled and shelved in a museum of Fisheries and Marine Resource Technology Discipline. It is hoped that the museum would play the expected role in fisheries education and research in the country.

**Acknowledgement:** The study was carried out with an award from Khulna University Higher Education and Research fund. The authors gratefully acknowledge Khulna University authority for the award.

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