3. Scolopendra hardwickii Newport (Image 2)^w
Material Examined: 3 males & 2 females, 2.viii.03, Sundipenta, N-STR, Kurnool District, coll. S.M. Maqsood Javed.
Distribution: India, Sri Lanka, Sumatra (Indo-Malayan).
Remarks: First record for Nallamalais, Eastern Ghats. These are brilliantly coloured, banded specimens. Commonly known as Tiger Centipede.

Genus: Cormocephalus Newport, 1844
4. Cormocephalus dentipes Pocock, 1891 (Image 3)^w
Distribution: India: Andaman & Nicobar Islands, Andhra Pradesh, Bihar, Himachal Pradesh, Meghalaya, Mizoram, Madhya Pradesh, Orissa, West Bengal, Uttar Pradesh and Uttarakhand.

Tribe: Asanadini
Genus: Asanada Meinert, 1886
5. Asanada maligii Jangi & Dass, 1984 (Image 4)^w
Material examined: 1 female, 12.iv.03, Thummalabailu, N-STR, Prakasam District, coll. T. Shiva Rama Krishna.
Distribution: India: Andhra Pradesh and Maharashtra.

Subfamily: Otostigminae
Genus: Rhysida Wood, 1862
Distribution: India: Maharashtra.
Remarks: Coxopleural process tipped with three spines. First record for Nallamalais, Eastern Ghats.

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FAUNA OF PROTECTED AREAS- 17
SOME SPECIES OF PRAYING MANTIDS (INSECTA: MANTODEA) FROM NAGARJUNASAGAR-SRISAILAM TIGER RESERVE, ANDHRA PRADESH

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Mantid fauna of India consists of over 160 species, included under some 68 genera (Mukherjee et al., 1995). A couple of genera and species have since been synonymized in recent work (Ehrmann, 2002). It is apparent from the work recently published on Mantodea of India, that distribution records of most mantids is inadequate and that, much exploration is necessary in Eastern and Western Ghats to understand mantid diversity and distribution patterns. Since mantids are predatory insects with a very useful role in the ecosystems, it is necessary that a thorough survey of mantids is carried out in various parts of India.

We recently carried out a survey of mantids under All Taxa Biodiversity Inventory, in Nagarjunasagar-Srisailam Tiger Reserve 15°53'-16°43'N & 78°30'-79°28'E Andhra Pradesh. It is an area with more or less scrub vegetation (typical southern tropical mixed dry deciduous) and southern tropical moist deciduous forest types intermingled with scrub (Champion & Seth, 1968), with a rainfall of about 900-1000mm. The climate is generally hot and dry with maximum temperatures rising up to 45°C during May and dropping down to 8°C in December. This is only a preliminary report as a major survey of various other animals is being carried out and the activity will persist over a period of 2 years. So far 14 genera and 16 species of mantids are known from Andhra Pradesh (Mukherjee et al., 1995).

Mantids were collected at various places using insect net or by hand-picking and were dry preserved using standard entomological techniques, at the Andhra Pradesh Forest Department’s Field Museum (Eco-research and Monitoring Laboratories) in the headquarters of Nagarjunasagar-Srisailam Tiger Reserve at Sundipenta, Kurnool district. The specimens were identified with the help of keys given in Mukherjee et al. (1995) and are listed here. Asterisk (*) indicates first record for Andhra Pradesh.
Family: Hymenopodidae
Subfamily: Hymenopodinae
1. Creobroter laevicollis (Saussure) (Image 1)

Family: Liturgusidae
Subfamily: Liturgusinae
2. Humbertiella sp. * Remarks: No species of this genus is so far recorded from Andhra Pradesh

Family: Mantidae
Subfamily: Schizocephzlinae
3. Schizocephala bicornis (Linnaeus)* (Image 2)
Subfamily: Miomantinae
4. Deiphobella laticeps (Wood-Manson)* (Image 3)
Subfamily: Paramantinae
5. Hierodula cf. tenuidentata Saussure* (Image 4)
Remarks: No species of Hierodula is known from Andhra Pradesh.
Subfamily: Mantinae
6. Tenodera sp. (Image 5)
Remarks: Nymph, close to T. superstitiosa*. No species of Tenodera is known from Andhra Pradesh.
Subfamily: Amelininae
7. Amantis sp.

Family: Toxodercidae
Subfamily: Toxodercinae
8. Toxoderopsis taurus Wood-Mason* (Image 6)

Family: Empusidae
Subfamily: Empusinae
9. Gongylus gongylodes (Linnaeus) (Image 7)
(Systematics and nomenclature as per Ehrmann, 2002);

It is clear from the above list that majority of the species reported here are first records for Andhra Pradesh. Since this report is based on collection of only two months (10 field visits), we are hopeful that rigorous surveys during different seasons will reveal additional species and thus add to the known distribution of Mantodea of India.

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