

CENTIPEDE FAUNA OF NE STATES, INDIA
(CHILOPODA : SCOLOPENDROMORPHA)

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INTRODUCTION

The reconnoitroire of the available references of Pocock (1892/93), Kraepelin (1903), Attems (1906, 1930) Gravely (1910, 1912) and Silvestri (1924) reveal the record of 24 species of Scolopendrid centipedes from NE Region, including part of West Bengal and Sikkim, as also Bhutan, Bangladesh, Myanmar and Nepal. Of these, eleven species represent the present political boundaries of N. E. States, India.

The N. E. (North East) Region, at present, comprises the states of Sikkim, Arunachal Pradesh, Assam, Meghalaya, Nagaland, Manipur, Tripura, Mizoram and part of West Bengal. The region is bounded on North by Tibet and China, East and South-East by Myanmar, on the North-West by Bhutan and Nepal, and on South by Bangladesh. The land of Bangladesh is, in fact, interspersed between West Bengal, Meghalaya, Assam, Tripura and Mizoram.

The present paper deals with the Scolopendrid Centipedes collected from Sikkim, Arunachal Pradesh, Assam, Meghalaya, Manipur, Mizoram and Tripura States of N. E. Region, India, by the scientists of Eastern Regional Station, Zoological Survey of India, Shillong (Meghalaya) since 1960.

Presently, the author has recorded twenty species from the region. Combining the record of eleven species made prior to 1930 (as referred to above), the total number of species now known from the N. E. Region, India, has been raised to twenty four, which excludes the species recorded from Burma, Bhutan, Bangladesh and Nepal.

Of the present twenty four species, five constitute a new record from India (*viz.*, *Otostigmus spinosus* Porath, *O. oweni* Pocock, *O. oatesi* Kraepelin, *O. proponens* Chamberlin and

Rhysida stuhlmanni stuhlmanni Kraepelin); four a new record from the region (namely, *O. ceylonicus* Haase, *O. ruficeps* Pocock, *O. nudus* Pocock and *Cormocephalus dentipes* Pocock); eleven species are with their distributional ranges extended within the N. E. Region. The author has not come across any material of *Ethmostigmus pygomegas* (Kohlrausch) (previously known from West Bengal, Assam and Myanmar), *Cormocephalus pygmaeus* Pocock (previously known from West Bengal, Assam, Bihar and Lower Myanmar), *Cryptops kempi* Silvestri (Siju cave, Assam) and *Scolopendra subspinipes dehaani* Brandt (from West Bengal, Assam, Myanmar and Bangladesh).

While listing the species from N. E. Region, the author has tried to include all the species hitherto known from N. E. Region. In addition, notes on the species occurring in adjacent countries like Bhutan, Bangladesh, Myanmar and Nepal, have been incorporated under respective genera. Efforts have also been made to re-assign the localities reported by Gravely (1910 and 1912) and earlier workers to their present political boundaries.

SYSTEMATIC ACCOUNT

Phylum : ARTHROPODA

Class : CHILOPODA

Order : SCOLOPENDROMORPHA

Family : CRYPTOPIDAE

Genus : **Paracryptops** Pocock

1. *Paracryptops indicus* Silvestri, 1924

1924. *Paracryptops indicus* Silvestri, *Rec. Indian Mus.*, 26 : 74 (Type locality : Siju Cave, Assam).

Material examined : India : Meghalaya, Shillong, Risa Colony, 1 ex., 15. iv, 1977, M. S. Jyrwa (ERS Reg. No. 14714).

Remarks : Hitherto recorded only from Siju cave (Assam), the present report of the species from Meghalaya state merely extends the range of its distribution in NE Region.

Genus : Cryptops Leach

2. Cryptops sp. (doubtful)

Material examined : India : Arunachal Pradesh, Basser (Siang), 1 ex., 13. ii. 1973, R. S. Pillai (ERS Reg. No. 6834).

The specimen is badly damaged and can not be assigned to any species.

3. Cryptops kempi Silvestri 1924

1924. *Cryptops kempi* Silvestri, *Rec. Indian Mus.*, 26 : 73. (Type locality : Siju cave, Assam).

Remarks : No material of this species was available from the present lot. The species has hitherto been reported by Silvestri (1924) from Siju cave, Assam. The genus is also reported to be represented by *Cryptops feae* Pocock, *Cryptops inermipes* (Pocock) and *Cryptops doriae* Pocock from Myanmar (vide Gravely, 1910). The species *C. doriae* has recently been collected from Nanda Devi Biosphere reserve area (U. P.) and is being dealt with elsewhere by the author. But it may be mentioned here that the record of this species from U. P., hitherto known from Matheren (Maharashtra) and Myanmar, is of great zoo-geographical importance.

Family : SCOLOPENDRIDAE

Subfamily : SCOLOPEDRINAE

Tribe : SCOLOPENDRINI

Genus : Scolopendra Linnaeus

4. Scolopendra morsitans Linnaeus 1753

1753. *Scolopendra morsitans* Linnaeus, *Syst. nat.*, 10 : 638.

Material examined : India : Meghalaya : Shillong, Motinagar, 1 ex., 14. xii. 1976, 1 ex., 18. iv. 1977, M. S. Jyrwa coll. (ERS Reg. No. 14631 and 14706) ; Risa Colony, 1 ex., 4. iv. 1973, J. K. Prasad (ERS Reg. No. 7004) : Jaintia Hill, Sonapur, 1 ex., 11. ix. 1983, A. R. Lahiri (ERS Reg. No. 9654).

Remarks : The species is cosmopolitan in status with previous report from Dilkush, NE Cachar and Sibsagar (Assam) (vide Gravely 1910). The species is also known to be recorded from Myanmar and Bangladesh.

5. *Scolopendra subspinipes dehaani* Brandt 1840

1840. *Scolopendra de haani* Brandt, *Bull. Ac. St.*, 7 : 159.

Remarks : The author has not come across any example of this species from NE Region, but it is previously known to be recorded from Punkhabari, Darjeeling, Calcutta, Chinsura, Barrackpur, Serampur and Siliguri (West Bengal) ; Dilkush, Jatinga River and North Cachar Hills (Assam) and Lower Myanmar and Bangladesh.

Note : The genus *Scolopendra* is also known to be represented by *Scolopendra pinguis* Pocock, 1891 from Karen Berge (Myanmar) and Buitenzorg (Java).

Genus : *Cormocephalus* Newport

6. *Cormocephalus dentipes* Pocock 1691

1891. *Cormocephalus dentipes* Pocock, *Ann. nat. Hist. Ser. 6*, Vol. 7 : 66-67.

Material examined : India : Meghalaya : Garo Hills, Tura Peak. 2 exs., 27.ii.1966, A. S. Rajagopal (ERS Reg. No. 12850) ; Dainadubi, 1 ex., 8.iv.1971, R. S. Pillai (ERS Reg. No. 1751) ; Selbagiri, 1 ex., 3.viii.1979, K. P. Singh (ERS Reg. No. 16590) : Khasi Hills, Ranikhor, 1 ex., 7.xii.1977, K. R. Rao (ERS Reg. 15193) ; Mizoram, Thingdome, 1 ex., 5.iii.1979, P. T. Cherian (ERS Reg. No. 16540).

Remarks : Originally described as species endemic to West Bengal, *Cormocephalus dentipes* Pocock, is now a well distributed species occurring widely in Meghalaya and Mizoram in NE Region. It has also been recorded from U. P. Terai (Khanna and Tripathi, 1985), Western Himalaya, U. P. (Khanna and Kumar, 1984 and Khanna, 1987), Himachal Pradesh (Khanna, unpublished record).

Distribution elsewhere : Bihar (Chhota Nagpur) and Delhi.

7. Cormocephalus pygmaeus Pocock 1892

1892. *Cormocephalus pygmaeus* Pocock, *J. Bombay nat. Hist. Soc.*, 7 (2) : 140.

Remarks: No material of this species is available in the present lot but it has earlier been recorded from Punkhabari, Darjeeling, Siliguri and Chakradharpur (West Bengal), Chhota Nagpur (Bihar), Cachar (Assam), Western Himalaya, U. P. and Rajasthan and also from Myanmar).

Subfamily : OTOSTIGMINAE
Tribe : OTOSTIGMINI
Genus : *Otostigma* Porath

8. Otostigma ceylonicus Haase, 1887

1887. *Otostigma ceylonicum* Haase, *Abh. Mus.*, Dresden, 5 : 69.

Material examined: India : Meghalaya : Khasi Hills, Pynursula, 1 ex., 23.vi.1966, B. K. Tikader (ERS Reg. No. 280); Umtham, 1ex., 26. ix.1973, S. K. Chanda (ERS Reg. 7947) ; Umphyrna, 1 ex., 26.vii.1974, S. K. Ghosh, (ERS Reg. No. 13489) ; Garo Hills, Resu, 7 exs., 19.ii.1975, S. Biswas (ERS Reg. No. 10686) ; Anbella, 1 ex., 5.iii. 1975, S. Biswas (ERS Reg. No. 10796) ; Jaintia Hills, Umtyngar, 1 ex., 26.vi.1964, S. Biswas (ERS Reg. No. 13478) ; Shillong, 1 ex., 3.v.1965, R. K. Varshney (ERS Reg. No. 12871) ; Risa Colony, 1 ex., 22.iii.1987, M. S. Jyrwa (ERS Reg. No. 19685) ; Lowsotum, 1 ex., 7.ii.1963, V. D. Srivastava (ERS Reg. No. 13521).

Remarks: Previously known from Himachal Pradesh, Myanmar and Sri Lanka, *O. ceylonicus* Haase, is being recorded for the first time, by the author, from Meghalaya states of NE Region, and is, therefore, of zoo-geographical interest.

9. Otostigma insularis Haase, 1887

1887. *Otostigma carinulatum* var. *insulare* Haase, *Abh. Mus.*, Dresden. 5 : 69.

Material examined: India : Meghalaya : Khasi Hills, Ranikhor, 3 exs., 10. xii.1977,

K. R. Rao (ERS Reg. No. 15246) : Umshning, 1 ex., 5.ix.1963, M. R. Rynth (ERS Reg. No. 12872) ; Mizoram : Aizwal, Kolassib, 1 ex., 4.iii.1979, P T. Cherian (ERS Reg. No. 16533).

Remarks : Previously known from Assam and West Bengal, the record of species from Meghalaya and Mizoram is, therefore, extension of range of its distribution in NE Region, The species is also known from Himachal Pradesh (Gravelly, 1912).

Distribution elsewhere : Bhutan, Sri Lanka and Seycelles.

10. *Otostigma nudus* Pocock 1890

1890. *Otostigma nudum* Pocock, *Ann. nat. Hist.*, Ser. (6) 5 : 247.

Material examined : India : Meghalaya : Khasi Hills, Cherrapunji, 2 exs., 15.viii.1965, B. K. Tikader (ERS Reg. No. 13510) ; Shillong, Pynthorumkhroh, 1 ex., 29.x.1959, R. S. Giri (ERS Reg. No. 315 A) ; Risa Colony, 1 ex., 1 .iii.1972, R. S. Giri (ERS Reg. No. :013).

Remarks : The species previously known from Tamilnadu (Pocock 1890) Himachal Pradesh (Khanna and Tripathi, 1986) and Uttar Pradesh (Khanna and Kumar 1984), is being recorded for the first time from NE Region, India.

11. *Otostigma oweni* Pocock, 1892

1892. *Otostigma oweni* Pocock, *J. Linn. Soc.*, London, 24 : 319.

Material examined : India : Arunachal Pradesh : Tirap Dist., Namchik, 1 ex., 21.i.1960, C. B. Srivastava (ERS Reg. No. 1653 A) ; Meghalaya : Umtham, 1 ex., 26.ix.1973, S. K. Chanda (ERS Reg. No. 7947).

Remarks : Previously known from Mergui Archipelago (Myanmar), this is the first record of the species *O. oweni* from Arunachal Pradesh and Meghalaya, in the NE Region, India.

12. *Otostigma oatesi* Kraepelin, 1903

1903. *Otostigma oatesi* Kraepelin, *Mitt. Mus.*, Hamburg. 20 : 120.

Material examined : India : Meghalaya : Shillong, Motinagar, 4 exs., 30.i.1973, M. S. Jyrwa (ERS Reg. No. 6627).

Remarks : Previously known from "British Burma", this is the first record of the species from India, NE Region.

13. *Otostigmus proponens* Chamberlin, 1920

1920. *Otostigmus proponens* Chamberlin, *Bull. Mus., Harward.* 64 : 15.

Material examined : India : Manipur, Shiroi (Alt. 1926 m), 1 ex., 24.vii.1977, S. G. Patil (ERS Reg. No. 14533).

Remarks : Previously known from Solomon Island (Pacific ocean), this is, interestingly, a first record of the species from India, Manipur in the NE Region.

14. *Otostigmus politus* Karsch, 1881

1881. *Otostigmus politus* Karsch, *Berlin ent. Z.*, 25 : 219.

Material examined : India : Assam : Kamrup, Manas Sanctuary, Sanet, Genda Beel, 1 ex., 9. xii. 1974, K. P. Singh (ERS Reg. No. 10259) ; Meghalaya : Khasi Hills, Old Barrapani, 6 exs., 30. xii. 1981, C. Radhakrishnan (ERS Reg. No. 18012) ; Umtyngar, 1 ex., 20. vi. 1965, B. K. Tikader (ERS Reg. No. 12874) ; Mawphlang, 1 ex., 6. viii. 1963, V. D. Srivastava (ERS Reg. No. 13257) ; 3 exs., 13. iv. 1967, R. K. Varshney (ERS Reg. No. 497) ; 1 ex., 12. iv. 1979, S. K. Chanda (ERS Reg. No. 16256) ; Umshning, 1 ex., 10. ix. 1969, N. Mazumdar (ERS Reg. No. 1189) ; Nongpoh, 1 ex., 22. xii. 1978, P. T. Cherian (ERS Reg. No. 15954) ; Shillong, Tripura castle road, 1 ex., 2. iii. 1973, M. S. Jyrwa (ERS Reg. No. 6911) ; 5 exs., 23. ii. 1976, M. S. Jyrwa (ERS Reg. No. 13585) ; Risa Colony, 1 ex., 1. ii. 1967 (ERS Reg. No. 14421) ; 1 ex., 6. i. 1977 (ERS Reg. No. 14383) ; 1 ex., 15. iv. 1977 (ERS Reg. No. 14714) ; 2 exs., 29. iv. 1982 (ERS Reg. No. 15474) ; 2 exs., 29. iv. 1982 (ERS Reg. No. 18131), all M. S. Jyrwa coll. ; Laitumkhroh, 1 ex., 12. ii. 1973, R. S. Giri (ERS Reg. No. 6646) ; 5 exs., 26. ii. 1973, M. S. Jyrwa (ERS Reg. No. 6903) ; Nongthymmai, 2 exs., 6. iii. 1972, (ERS Reg. No. 2999) ; 5 exs., 20. iii. 1973 (ERS Reg. No. 6957), all R. S. Giri coll. ; 1 ex., 5. vi. 1985, M. S. Jyrwa (ERS Reg. No. 12225) ; Lumparing, 1 ex., 2. xii. 1974 (ERS Reg. No. 10176) ; 5 exs., 1. iii. 1976 (ERS Reg. No. 13636) ; 1 ex., 9. iii. 1976 (ERS Reg. No. 13666), all R. S. giri coll. ; 3 exs., 4. xi. 1975, (ERS Reg. No. 10695), all M. S.

Jyrwa coll. ; Malki Forest, 1 ex., 9. xi. 1971 (ERS Reg. No. 2682) ; 2 exs., 3. iii. 1972, (ERS Reg. No. 2995) ; 3 exs., 13. iii. 1973 (ERS Reg. No. 6936), all R. S. Giri coll. ; 3 exs., 17. iii. 1973 (ERS Reg. No. 6973) ; 2 exs. 18. xii. 1974 (ERS Reg. No. 10204) ; 2 exs., 5. ii. 1974 (ERS Reg. No. 8492) ; 1 ex., 5. x. 1975 (ERS Reg. No. 10993) ; 1 ex., 28. x. 1975 (ERS Reg. No. 12655) ; 1 ex., 15. i. 1976 (ERS Reg. No. 13221) ; 2 exs., 7. ii. 1976 (ERS Reg. No. 13461) ; 1 ex., 2. xi. 1977 (ERS. Reg. No. 15023), all M. S. Jyrwa coll. ; Motinagar, 1 ex., 22. ii. 1972 (ERS Reg. No. 2983) ; 2 exs., 19. xii. 1974 (ERS Reg. No. 10220) ; 2 exs., 16. xii. 1979 (ERS Reg. No. 10207), all R. S. Giri coll. ; 4 exs., 25. i. 1975 (ERS Reg. No. 10461) ; 3 exs., 11. ii. 1976 (ERS Reg. No. 13472) ; 3 exs., 12. i. 1977 (ERS Reg. No. 14377) ; 5 exs., 22. i. 1977, (ERS Reg. No. 14416), all M. S. Jyrwa coll.

Remarks : Previously known from Darjeeling (West Bengal) and Dikrang and Sureil (Assam) in the NE Region, this is considered as further extension of distribution of this species in NE Region.

Distribution elsewhere : India (Himachal Pradesh, Orissa and Uttar Pradesh) ; Myanmar, China, Sumatra, New Guinea and Australia.

15. *Otostigmus rugulosus* Porath, 1876

1876. *Otostigma rugulosum* Porath, *Bih. Svenska Ak.*, 4 (7) : 21.

Material examined : India : Meghalaya : Khasi Hills, Mawsynram, 1 ex., 28. iv. 1978, K. P. Singh (ERS Reg. No. 15440).

Remarks : Previously known from Sadiya and Mangaldai (Assam), this is the first record of this species from Khasi Hills (Meghalaya) after the lapse of about 82 years.

Distribution elsewhere : India (Himachal Pradesh and A & N Islands) and Myanmar (Mergui Archipelago).

16. *Otostigmus ruficeps* Pocock, 1890

1890. *Otostigma ruficeps* Pocock, *Ann. nat. Hist. Ser.* (6) 5 : 247.

Material examined : India : Meghalaya : Khasi Hills, Mawphlang, 1 ex., 12. ix. 1963, S. Biswas (ERS Reg. No. 13505) ; 1 ex., 28. iv. 1978, K. P. Singh (ERS Reg. No. 15440) ; Darugiri, 1 ex., 29. xi. 1977, K. P. Rao (ERS Reg. No. 15093) ; Malki Forest, 2 exs., 24. xi. 1973, R. S. Giri coll, (ERS Reg. No. 8640),

Remarks : Previously known from Tamilnadu (Pocock, 1890) and Lakhimpur Kheri (U. P.) (Khanna and Tripathi, 1985), the present record of this species from Meghalaya State NE Region constitute the first ever record from this part of India, and is of great zoogeographical interest.

17. *Otostigma spinosus* Porath, 1876

1876. *Otostigma spinosum* Porath, *Bih. Svenska Ak.*, 4 (7) : 22.

Material examined : India : Meghalaya : Shillong, Sawsohtum, 2 exs., 28.ii.1967, R. K. Varshney (ERS Reg. No. 447).

Remarks : Previously known from Myanmar (Tennaserrim), Java, Sumatra, Sulawesi and New Guinea, this is the first record of the species from India, Meghalaya State.

Note : In the NE Region the genus *Otostigma* Porath is also represented by species like *faeae* Pocock, *morsitans* Pocock (both from Myanmar) and *scaber* Porath (from Myanmar, China and Thailand).

Genus : *Rhysida* Wood

18. *Rhysida afra cuprea* Kraepallin, 1903

1903. *Rhysida cuprea* Kraepelin, *Mitt. Mus.*, Hamburg, 20 : 154.

Material examined : India : Arunachal Pradesh : Nefa, Tirep Dist. Mainpang, 1 ex., 2. ii. 1962, C. B. Srivastava (ERS Reg. No. 1651A) ; Assam : Kaziranga, Jhapani Bill ; 1 ex., 14. iii 1964, A. K. Mandal (ERS Reg. No. 13506) ; Meghalaya : Garo Hills, Anagiri Forests, 1 ex., 23. ii. 1975, S. Biswas (ERS Reg. No. 10728) ; Jaintia Hills, 1 ex., 13. iii. 1970 (ERS Reg. No. 12858) ; 4 exs., 14. iii. 1970 (ERS Reg. No. 12859), all S. K. Talukdar coll. ; 2 exs., 29. i. 1975, A. K. Ghosh (ERS Reg. No. 10567) ; Khasi Hills, Umran, 1 ex., 28. ii. 1963, V. D. Srivastava (ERS Reg. No. 13511) ; Barapani, 1 ex., 24. vii. 1967, R. K. Varshney (ERS Reg. No. 603) ; Darugiri Road, 1 ex., 29. xi. 1977, K. R. Rao (ERS Reg. No. 15093) ; Shillong, Mawphlang, 1 ex., 12. xi. 1963, S. Biswas (ERS Reg. No. 13505) ; Risa Colony, 4 exs., 27. ii. 1961, S. N. Prasad (ERS Reg. No. 1284 A) ; 1 ex., 28. iii. 1979, K. K. Deb (ERS Reg. No. 7006) ; Motinagar, 1 ex., 19. iii. 1973, M. S. Jyrwa (ERS Reg. No. 6949) ; Lamshing, 1 ex., 4. i. 1972, G. M.

Yazdani, (ERS Reg. No. 2786) ; Tripura Castle Road, 1 ex., 17. ii. 1978, M. S. Jyrwa (ERS Reg. No. 15318) ; Umshning 3 exs., 5. v iii. 1971, V. D. Srivastava (ERS Reg. No. 12502) ; Lalchani Basti, 1 ex., 26. vi. 1975, M. S. Jyrwa (ERS Reg. No. 12208).

Remarks : Previously known from Southern slopes of Bhutan and Sylhet (Bangladesh), *R. afra cuprea* Kraepelin was recorded by Gravely (1910) from Darjeeling and Ghumti (West Bengal) and Assam. The record of this species is, therefore, an extension of range of its distribution in the NE Region. In Western Himalaya, U. P. Khanna and Kumar (1984). and Khanna (1987) recorded this species from Almora and Pithoragarh dists., while Khanna and Tripathi (1985a) from Sirmaur (Himachal Pradesh).

Note : Gravely (1910) also recorded *R. afra petersi* (Porath) from Bhutan.

19. *Rhysida crassispina* Kraepelin, 1903

1903. *Rhysida crassispina* Kraepelin, *Mitt. Mus.*, Hamburg, 20 : 151.

Material examined : India : Meghalaya : Shillong, Malki Forests, 1 ex., 29. vii. 1975, R. S. Giri (ERS Reg. No. 12325) ; Umshning, 1 ex., 4. i. 1972, G. M. Yazdani (ERS Reg. No. 2786).

Remarks : Previously known from Matheran (Nr. Bombay, Maharashtra) the record of *R. crassispina* Kraepelin from Meghalaya, is interesting zoogeographically.

20. *Rhysida longipes longipes* (Newport), 1845

1845. *Branchipstoma longipes* Pocock, *Trans. Linn. Soc.*, 19 : 411.

Material examined : India : Arunachal Pradesh : Nefa, Tirep Dist., Namchik, 1 ex., 17. i. 1962, C. B. Srivastava, (ERS Reg. No. 1628A).

Remarks : Previously known from Lower Myanmar (Moulmein) ; West Bengal (Calcutta and Ranigunge), the finding of species from Arunachal Pradesh is undoubtedly an extension of range of its distribution.

21. *Rhysida nuda immarginata* (Porath), 1876

1876. *Branchiostoma immarginatum* Porath, *Bih. K. svenska Ak.*, 4 (7) : 24.

Material examined : India : Assam : Goalpara, Bhaisi Kuti, 2 exs., 15. i. 1972 (ERS Reg. No. 2664) ; 3 exs., 16. i. 1972, (ERS Reg. No. 2877), all S. Biswas coll. ; E. Khasi Hills, Sericulture garden, 2 exs., 4. i. 1963, M. R. Rynth. (ERS Reg. No. 13256) ; Insectary Building, ZSI, 2 exs., 24. ii. 1967, S. K. Pradhan (ERS Reg. No. 1282A) ; Malki Forests, 1 ex., 8. ix. 1976, M. S. Jyrwa (ERS Reg. No. 13990) ; Garo Hills, Dainadubi, 1 ex., 8. iv. 1967, R. S. Pillai (ERS Reg. No. 1751).

Remarks : Previously recorded from Darjeeling, Punkhabari, Nareil, Jessore, Ranigunge, Tinpahar and Sahibgunge (West Bengal) and Sureil, Samagooting, Dilkush and Cachar (Assam) as also from Chitlong and Little Nepal Valley (Nepal) and Upper Mynmar, the record of this species from Assam and Meghalaya is considered as extension of range of its distribution in NE Region.

22. *Rhysida nuda nuda* (Newport), 1845

1845. *Branchiostoma nudum* Newport, *Trans. Linn. Soc.*, London, 9 : 412.

Material examined ; India : Assam : Goalpara, Dudhnai, 1 ex., 8. iv. 1971, R. S. Pillai (ERS Reg. No. 1738) ; Meghalaya : Shillong, Risa Colony, 1 ex., 31. viii. 1960, S. P. Mazumdar (ERS Reg. No. 13482) ; New Colony, 1 ex. 24. iii. 1963, A. S. Rajagopal (ERS Reg. No. 13519).

Remarks : Earlier recorded from Myanmar (Pegu) the species was subsequently recorded by Gravely from Assam (Sadiya and Dibrugarh). This is, therefore, a further extension of range of distribution of this species in the NE Region.

23. *Rhysida stuhlmanni stuhlmanni* Kraepelin, 1903

1903. *Rhysida stuhlmanni* Kraepelin, *Mitt. Mus.*, Hamburg, 20 : 152.

Material examined : India : Meghalaya : Shillong, Tripura Castle Road, 1 ex., iii. 1973, M. S. Jyrwa (ERS Reg. No. 6911).

Remarks : *Rhysida stuhlmanni* Kraepelin is by origin, an Ethiopian species, a subspecies of which has been described by Khanna (in press) from Western Himalaya, U. P., and simultaneously relegated the original species as *Rhysida stuhlmanni stuhlmanni* Kraepelin *forma-typica*.

The author has come across a single specimen of *R. s. stuhlmanni* from Meghalaya, and is, therefore, treated as a first record from India.

Genus : *Ethmostigmus* (Pocock)

The genus *Ethmostigmus* (Pocock) is known to be represented by the following species from NE Region but unfortunately the author has come across none of them in the present lot.

24. *Ethmostigmus pygomegas* (Kohlrausch), 1881

1881. *Heterostoma pygomega* Kohlrausch, *Arch. Naturges.*, 47 : 68.

Remarks : The species is recorded from Darjeeling (West Bengal), Dikrang, Siliguri, Cachar and Sibsagar (Assam) and Myanmar.

In addition, *E. platycephalus* (Newport) and *E. spinosus* (Newport) have also been known from Myanmar.

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SUMMARY

The present paper deals with the Scolopendrid centipedes collected from North Eastern States of India, from Arunachal Pradesh, Assam, Meghalaya, Manipur, Mizoram, Sikkim and Tripura. Altogether twenty species have been recorded, five of which, viz., *Otostigmus oatesi* Kraepelin, *O. oweni* Pocock, *O. proponens* Chamberlin, *O. spinosus* Porath and *Rhysida stuhlmanni stuhlmanni* (Kraepelin), constitute a first record from India ; four new record from NE Region, namely, *Otostigmus ceylonicus* Haase, *O. ruficeps* Pocock, *O. nudus* Pocock, and *Cormocephalus dentipes* Pocock ; eleven species are with

their distributional ranges extended within the NE Region. Combining the above records with earlier species known from the region, the number of species now known from NE States has been raised from eleven to twentyfour. *Ethmostigmus pygomegas* (Kohlrausch), *Cormocephalus pygmaeus* Pocock and *Scolopendra subspinipes dehaani* Brandt, known earlier from the region, have not been recorded in the present studies. Notes on the species occurring in the adjoining countries like Bhutan, Bangladesh, Myanmar and Nepal, have been provided.

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