The Northern Regional Centre at Dehradun, Uttarakhand, was established in August 1960 under the second five year plan of the Government of India. It is one among the sixteen Regional Centres of the Zoological Survey of India (ZSI), the internationally acclaimed taxonomic organization of the country. The Centre is engaged in the documentation of the rich and diverse faunal resources of the region, by conducting field exploration and scientific studies.

**Major Programmes undertaken**
- Faunal Exploration of Uttarakhand, Delhi and Haryana States
- Faunal Exploration of Western Himalaya, Uttar Pradesh
- Faunal Exploration of Shiwalik Ecosystem of Punjab
- Faunal Exploration of Western Doon Shiwalks, Dehradun
- Faunal Exploration of Aasan Wetland, Dehradun
- Status of Mahseer Fish in Nayar Valley, Distt.
- Pauri, Uttarakhand Faunal Exploration of Corbett National Park

**Conservation areas**
- Nanda Devi, Nanda Devi BR, Rajaji NP, Gobind Pashu Vihar, Corbett TR, Uttarakhand, Asola-Bhatti WLS, Delhi, Kalesar WLS in Haryana.

**Major Scientific Contributions**
Several species of Pisces, Isoptera, Hymenoptera, Myriapoda, Platyhelminthes and Nematoda were described as new to science by the scientists of the Centre. Over 100 species forms first records from the states and region. Trichotaxonomy of Mammalian species and molecular studies on Turtles have been undertaken for the first time.
Available Taxonomic Expertise
Taxonomic studies on Mammals, Birds, Reptiles, Amphibia, Insects, Nematodes and Platyhelminthes are available at the Centre.

Publications
16 books and 750 research papers were published in various National / International journals by the scientists of the Centre
- Fauna of Western Himalaya
- Fauna of Shiwalik Ecosystem of Punjab
- Fauna of Western Doon Shiwalik, Dehradun
- Fauna of Asan Wetland, Dehradun
- Nayar Valley, Distt. Pauri: Status of Mahseer Fish
- Fauna of Corbett National Park and Tiger Reserve
- Fauna of Rajaji National Park
- Fauna of Nanda Devi National Park and Biosphere Reserve
- Fauna of Gobind Pashu Vihar
- Fauna of Asola-Bhatti Wildlife Sanctuary
- Handbook on Indian Wetland Birds and their Conservation
- Water Birds of Northern India
- Fauna of Uttarakhand (3 Volumes)
- Pictorial Handbook on some Common butterflies of Uttarakhand
- Nematodes associated with soil and insects in Teak and Sal Forests of Dehradun
- Trichotaxonomy of species of families Sciridae, Viverridae, Mustelidae, Herpestidae and Tragulidae.

National Zoological Collections (NZC)
NZCs maintained at the Centre contain 1,94,918 identified specimens, of both vertebrates and invertebrates. The collection also includes 67 holotypes and 973 paratypes.

Modern Infrastructure and Advanced Research Facilities
The Centre is equipped with high resolution binocular microscopes with Differential Interference Contrast (BX51 DIC) drawing tube and digital camera facilities, and BX41: Olympus microscopes. The major recent additions to the Centre include Jeolui Bench Top Scanning Electron Microscope and DNA Preservation Lab instruments including, PCR, Deep freezer, Centrifuges and Gel-doc system.

Library
The library of the Centre has acquired 6,539 books and 50 journals / periodicals are subscribed.

Museum
Representative fauna of the region, pictorials and habitat cases/models are in display at the Museum of the Centre, for generating public awareness towards biodiversity conservation.

Other Extension Activities
Identification and advisory services are offered to students, researchers and scientists of other institutes. Talks/lectures on various subjects related to faunal diversity and biodiversity conservation are delivered on request to the students as well as school /college teachers.

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