

The Checklist of the Riverine Fishes of Bangladesh

Mostafa A.R. Hossain, Md. Abdul Wahab and Ben Belton*

Faculty of Fisheries, Bangladesh Agricultural University, Mymensingh-2202

*The WorldFish Center, Bangladesh and South Asia Office, Dhaka

marhossain@yahoo.com

The fishes of Bangladesh exhibit a wonderful diversity in their size, shape, colour, habitat, feeding habits and breeding behaviour. Considering size alone, there are fish such as the rice fish which attain only an inch long at maturity and weigh less than a gram, whilst others such as the river shark or goonch reach more than two meters in length and weigh more than 100 kg. Bangladesh also possesses splendid, vibrantly coloured fish - queen loach and other loaches and those such as pipe fishes which look more like a crocodile. The male pipe fish provides all postzygotic care of its offspring by brooding embryos on its ventral surfaces, while the rice fish are live bearers.

The biodiversity of riverine fishes is presently in great danger. Many fishes are either endangered or critically endangered. Many have already become extinct from the waters of Bangladesh. The Red Book of Threatened Fishes of Bangladesh published by the IUCN-Bangladesh is already more than a decade old. According to the Red List, 54 indigenous riverine fishes of Bangladesh are threatened- vulnerable, endangered and critically endanged (IUCN-Bangladesh 2000). However, there have been massive changes in riverine fish biodiversity over the last 12 years. According to the survey conducted by the Fish Museum & Biodiversity Centre (FMBC), Bangladesh Agricultural University, Mymensingh, Bangladesh during 2009-10, more than 100 riverine fishes are presently under threat and a number of species are already lost.

At least 293 fish species from 13 orders and 61 families are found in the rivers, streams, ponds, ditches, beels, haors, baors, lakes and floodplains of Bangladesh. This figure includes fishes which normally inhabit estuarine rivers but are also found upstream in freshwater rivers. It is noteworthy that, among the fish usually referred to as freshwater fishes in Bangladesh, about half can tolerate moderate salinity (up to 10 ppt) and often are found in brackish rivers. In addition, many freshwater fishes aggregate in the nutrient-rich areas of river mouths during the monsoon. This makes it difficult to distinguish between many freshwater and brackishwater species. For this reason, estuarine fishes which move upstream for either short or relatively long distances and stay there for several days to months without any physiological difficulties are also included in the list of riverine fishes.

A number of estuarine gobies, ponyfishes and flatfishes are caught in the River Meghna close to Dhaka city, far from Bay of Bengal. Flatfishes are even available in the haors of Sunamgonj in the northeastern part of the country. Though considered as estuarine or marine, fishes including pike conger eel, a number of clupeids, pipe fishes, eel gobies, sleepers, ponyfishes, flatheads, threadfins, scats, and croakers may live in upstream in freshwater rivers far from coast for long periods of time, and are frequently caught in fishermens' nets. On the other hand, fish species generally considered to be



freshwater species including goonch, yellowtail catfish, freshwater eels, mud eel, long whiskered catfish, bagrid catfish, river sprat, featherbacks and glassy perchlet are also often found in estuarine rivers.

The riverine fishes: category and checklist

The major groups of riverine fishes of Bangladesh include major carp, minor carp, barbs, loach, catfish, perch, river shad, snakehead, eels, featherback, anchovies, glass fish and mullet. Felts et al. (1996) divided the fishes of Bangladesh into two categories - small fish, or small indigenous species of fish (SIS), and large fish. According to these authors, the fish which attain a size of 5 - 25 cm are small fish and all others are large fish. Since the publication of Felts et al.s' article, the term SIS has become popular among

the scientists, researchers and policy makers. However, classification based on this simple definition has created confusions. For example, under this classification, many medium sized fishes like- bronze featherback, tank goby, chacunda gizzard shad etc. that never grow more than half a meter, are considered to fall in the same category as some of the largest fishes like freshwater shark, goonch etc that may grow more than 2 meter with weight more than 100 kg. On the other hand, tiny fishes like blue panchax or flying barb barely grow to 5 cm and weigh only a few grams (2-3 g), but considered to fall into the same category as fishes like climbing perch or bronze featherback which may reach 250 g or more. To rationalise this classification we propose to divide the riverine and other inland water fishes of Bangladesh to 4 categories based on size.

Size-based classification of the riverine fishes of Bangladesh

Fish type	Tiny fish	Small fish	Medium fish	Large fish
Bangla name	Gura machh	Choto machh	Majhari machh	Boro machh
Total length at maturity (cm)	< 5	5 - 15	> 15 - 30	> 30

The maximum average weight of fish presently available in rivers, beels, ditches, floodplain, haor and baor, landing centers and fish markets were given priority in this classification rather than the fish weights previously published in books, papers and the internet. However, for fish which are not yet part of the collection, published weights have been taken in to consideration.

We have listed 293 fishes in the checklist of the riverine fishes of Bangladesh. We believe this is a complete list of the fish so far described, documented or reported. Some species have never before been recorded in a checklist of Bangladeshi fishes. For example, the croaking gourami, *Trichopsis vittata*, has only been reported from Southeast Asian countries such as Cambodia, Thailand and Vietnam to date. We, however, found the fish from the river Meghna, near Rekabi Bazar in Munshigonj district. The number of riverine fishes of Bangladesh has been given variously as 260, 265 or 270 in different books, reports, papers and popular articles to date. We hope this more complete list of Bangladeshi riverine fishes will solve the predicament.





Checklist of the riverine fishes of Bangladesh

Order ₁ Anguilliformes (8 fishes)						
	Family	Species	English name	Bengali name	Type of fish	Habitat
1	Anguillidae	<i>Anguilla bengalensis</i>	Indian Mottled Eel	Banehara	Large	E-R
2	Moringuidae	<i>Moringua raitaborua</i>	Purple Spaghetti Eel	Rata Boura	Large	E-R
3	Muraenesocidae	<i>Congresox talabon</i>	Yellow Pike Conger	Kamila	Large	E-R
4		<i>Congresox talabonoides</i>	Indian Pike Conger	Kamila	Large	E-R
5		<i>Muraenesox bagio</i>	Common Pike Conger	Kamila	Large	E-R
6	Muraenidae	<i>Gymnothorax tile</i>	Moray Eel	Bamos	Large	E-R
7	Ophichthidae	<i>Pisodonophis boro</i>	Rice-paddy Eel	Kharu	Large	E-R
8		<i>Pisodonophis cancrivorus</i>	Longfin Snake Eel		Large	E-R
Order ₂ Osteoglossiformes (2 fishes)						
9	Notopteridae	<i>Chitala chitala</i>	Clown Knifefish	Chitol	Large	R-E
10		<i>Notopterus notopterus</i>	Bronze Featherback	Foli	Medium	R-E
Order ₃ Megalopidae (1 fish)						
11	Megalopidae	<i>Megalops cyprinoides</i>	Megalops		Large	E-R
Order ₄ Clupeiformes (18 fishes)						
12	Clupeidae	<i>Anodontostoma chacunda</i>	Chacunda Gizzard Shad	Chakunda	Medium	E-R
13		<i>Corica soborna</i>	Ganges River Sprat	Kachki	Tiny	R-E
14		<i>Gonialosa manmina</i>	Ganges River Gizzard Shad	Chapila	Small	E-R
15		<i>Gudusia chapra</i>	Indian River Shad	Chapila	Small	R
16		<i>Hilsa kelee</i>	Kelee Shad	Garba Ilish	Medium	E-R
17		<i>Nematalosa nasus</i>	Blochs Gizzard Shad	Borong	Medium	E-R
18		<i>Tenualosa ilisha</i>	Hilsa Shad	Ilish	Large	E-R
19		<i>Tenualosa toil</i>	Toli Shad	Chandona Ilish	Large	E-R
20	Engraulidae	<i>Coilia dussumieri</i>	Goldspotted Anchovy	Olua	Medium	E-R
21		<i>Coilia ramcarati</i>	Ramcarat Anchovy	Olua	Medium	E-R
22		<i>Setipinna phasa</i>	Gangetic Hairfin Anchovy	Phasa	Medium	E-R
23		<i>Setipinna taty</i>	Scaly Hairfin Anchovy	Teli Phasa	Medium	E-R
24		<i>Thryssa hamiltonii</i>	Hamilton's Thryssa	Ram Phasa	Medium	E-R
25		<i>Thryssa purava</i>	Oblique-jaw Thryssa	Ram Phasa	Small	E-R
26	Pristigasteridae	<i>Ilisha filigera</i>	Coromandel Ilisha	Choukkha Phasia	Medium	E-R
27		<i>Ilisha megaloptera</i>	Bigeye Ilisha	Chapila	Medium	E-R
28		<i>Ilisha melastoma</i>	Indian Ilisha	Khorchuna	Medium	E-R
29		<i>Pellona ditchela</i>	Indian Pellona	Choukkha	Small	E-R
Order ₅ Cypriniformes (9 fishes)						
30	Balitoridae	<i>Acanthocobitis botia</i>	Mottled Loach	Bilturi	Small	R
31		<i>Acanthocobitis zonalternans</i>	River Loach		Small	R
32		<i>Balitora brucei</i>	Grays Stone Loach		Small	R
33		<i>Nemacheilus sikmaiensis</i>			Small	R
34		<i>Schistura beavani</i>	Creek Loach		Small	R
35		<i>Schistura corica</i>	Polka Dotted Loach	Khorka	Tiny	R
36		<i>Schistura dayi</i>			Small	R
37		<i>Schistura savona</i>	Half Banded Loach	Savon Khorka	Tiny	R
38	Cobitidae	<i>Schistura scaturigina</i>	Victory Loach	Dari	Tiny	R
39		<i>Botia dario</i>	Queen Loach	Bou Machh	Small	R



	Family	Species	English name	Bengali name	Type of fish	Habitat
40		<i>Botia dayi</i>	Hora Loach	Rani Machh	Small	R
41		<i>Botia lohachata</i>	Reticulated Loach	Rani Machh	Small	R
42		<i>Botia rostrata</i>	Gangetic Loach	Rani Machh	Small	R
43		<i>Lepidocephalichthys annandalei</i>	Annandale Loach	Gutum	Tiny	R
44		<i>Lepidocephalichthys berdmorei</i>	Burmese Loach	Puiya	Small	R
45		<i>Lepidocephalichthys guntea</i>	Peppered Loach	Gutum	Small	R-B
46		<i>Lepidocephalichthys irrorata</i>	Loktak Loach	Puiya	Small	R
47		<i>Neoeucirrhichthys maydelli</i>	Goalpara Loach		Tiny	R
48		<i>Pangio oblonga</i>	Java Loach	Panga	Small	R
49		<i>Pangio pangia</i>	Cinnamon Loach	Panga	Small	R
50		<i>Somileptus gongota</i>	Gongota Loach	Cheng Gutum	Small	R
51	Cyprinidae	<i>Amblypharyngodon microlepis</i>	Indian Carplet	Mola	Small	R
52		<i>Amblypharyngodon mola</i>	Mola Carplet	Mola	Small	R
53		<i>Aspidoparia jaya</i>		Joya	Small	R
54		<i>Aspidoparia morar</i>		Morari	Small	R
55		<i>Barilius barila</i>	Barna Baril	Barali	Small	R
56		<i>Barilius barna</i>	Ozola Barb	Koksa	Small	R
57		<i>Barilius bendelisis</i>	Hamilton's Barila	Joiya	Medium	R
58		<i>Barilius shacra</i>	Shakra Baril	Koksa	Small	R
59		<i>Barilius tileo</i>	Tileo Baril	Pathorchata	Small	R
60		<i>Barilius vagra</i>	Vagra Baril	Koksa	Small	R
61		<i>Bengala elonga</i>	Megarasbora	Along	Small	R
62		<i>Chagunius chagunio</i>		Chaguni	Small	R
63		<i>Chela cachius</i>	Silver Hatchet Barb	Chhep Chela	Small	R-B
64		<i>Chela laubuca</i>	Indian Glass Barb	Chhep Chela	Small	R-B
65		<i>Laubuca brahmaputraensis</i>		Chhep Chela	Small	R
66		<i>Salmostoma acinaces</i>	Silver Razorbelly Minnow	Chela	Small	R
67		<i>Salmostoma bacaila</i>	Large Razorbelly Minnow	Katari	Small	R-B
68		<i>Salmostoma phulo</i>	Finescale Razorbelly Minnow	Phul Chela	Small	R
69		<i>Salmostoma sardinella</i>	Sardinella Razorbelly Minnow		Small	R
70		<i>Securicula gora</i>		Ghora Chela	Medium	R
71		<i>Crossocheilus latius</i>	Gangetic Latia	Kalabata	Small	R-B
72		<i>Danio dangila</i>	Moustached Danio	Nipati	Small	R
73		<i>Danio rerio</i>	Zebra Danio	Anju	Tiny	R
74		<i>Devario aequipinnatus</i>	Giant Danio	Chhebli	Small	R
75		<i>Devario anomalous</i>			Small	R



	Family	Species	English name	Bengali name	Type of fish	Habitat
76		<i>Devario devario</i>	Sind Danio	Debari	Small	R
77		<i>Esomus danicus</i>	Flying Barb	Darkina	Small	R-E
78		<i>Esomus lineatus</i>	Striped Flying Barb	Darkina	Tiny	R-E
79		<i>Rasbora daniconius</i>	Slender Rasbora	Darkina	Small	R-E
80		<i>Rasbora rasbora</i>	Gangetic Scissortail Rasbora	Luizza Darkina	Small	R-E
81		<i>Garra annandalei</i>	Annandale Garra	Ghorpoiya	Small	R
82		<i>Garra gotyla</i>	Sucker Head	Ghorpoiya	Small	R
83		<i>Gibelion catla</i>	Catla	Catla	Large	R-E
84		<i>Cirrhinus mrigala</i>	Mrigal	Mrigal	Large	R-E
85		<i>Cirrhinus reba</i>	Reba carp	Raeek	Medium	R
86		<i>Labeo angra</i>		Ranga Rui	Medium	R
87		<i>Labeo ariza</i>	Reba	Reba	Medium	R
88		<i>Labeo bata</i>		Bata	Large	R
89		<i>Labeo baga</i>		Bhangon	Medium	R
90		<i>Labeo baggut</i>		Gonia	Medium	R-E
91		<i>Labeo calbasu</i>	Orange-fin Labeo	Kahibaus	Large	R
92		<i>Labeo dero</i>		Kursa	Medium	R
93		<i>Labeo dyocheilus</i>		Ghora Machh	Large	R
94		<i>Labeo fimbriatus</i>	Fringed-lipped Carp		Large	R
95		<i>Labeo gonius</i>	Kuria Labeo	Ghora	Large	R
96		<i>Labeo nandina</i>	Kulta Labeo	Nandina	Large	R
97		<i>Labeo pangusia</i>		Baitka	Large	R
98		<i>Labeo rohita</i>	Rohu	Rui	Large	R-E
99		<i>Tor putitora</i>		Putitor Mahseer	Large	R
100		<i>Tor tor</i>		Mahseer	Large	R
101		<i>Neolissochilus hexagonolepis</i>		Copper Mahseer	Large	R
102		<i>Oreichthys cosuatis</i>	Kosuati Barb	Kosuati	Small	R
103		<i>Osteobrama cotio</i>		Dhela	Small	R
104		<i>Osteochilus hasseltii</i>	Silver Sharkminnow		Medium	R
105		<i>Puntius chola</i>	Swamp Barb	Chala Punti	Small	R
106		<i>Puntius conchonius</i>	Rosy Barb	Kanchon Punti	Small	R
107		<i>Puntius gelius</i>	Golden Barb	Jeli Punti	Tiny	R
108		<i>Puntius guganio</i>		Mola Punti	Small	R
109		<i>Puntius phutunio</i>	Spattedtail Barb	Phutani Punti	Small	R
110		<i>Puntius puntio</i>	Puntio Barb	Punti	Small	R
111		<i>Puntius sarana</i>	Olive Barb	Sar Punti	Large	R-E
112		<i>Puntius sophore</i>	Pool Barb	Bhadi Punti	Medium	R
113		<i>Puntius terio</i>	Onespot Barb	Teri Punti	Small	R
114		<i>Puntius ticto</i>	Ticto Barb	Tit Punti	Small	R
115		<i>Raiamas bola</i>	Trout Barb	Bhol	Large	R
116		<i>Raiamas guttatus</i>	Burmese Trout	Bhol	Medium	R
117	Psilorhynchidae	<i>Psilorhynchus balitora</i>	Balitora Minnow	Balitora	Small	R
118		<i>Psilorhynchus gracilis</i>	Rainbow Minnow	Balitora	Small	R
119		<i>Psilorhynchus rahmani</i>			Small	R
120		<i>Psilorhynchus sucatio</i>	River Stone Carp	Titari	Small	R
Order: Siluriformes (59 fishes)						
121	Amblycipitidae	<i>Amblyceps laticeps</i>	Indian Torrent Catfish		Small	R
122		<i>Amblyceps mangois</i>	Indian Torrent Catfish		Small	R
123	Ariidae	<i>Arius gagora</i>	Engraved Catfish		Large	E R



	Family	Species	English name	Bengali name	Type of fish	Habitat
124	Bagridae	<i>Nemapteryx caelata</i>	Thickspined Catfish	Kata	Large	E-R
125		<i>Nemapteryx nenga</i>	Gagora Catfish	Gagla	Medium	E-R
126		<i>Batrachocephalus mino</i>	Beardless Sea Catfish	Katabukha	Medium	E-R
127		<i>Osteogeneiosus militaris</i>	Soldier Catfish	Apuiya	Large	E-R
128		<i>Batasio batasio</i>		Tengra	Small	R
129		<i>Batasio tengana</i>		Tengra	Small	R
130		<i>Hemibagrus menoda</i>	Menoda catfish	Ghagla	Large	R
131		<i>Mystus armatus</i>	Kerala Mystus	Tengra	Medium	R-E
132		<i>Mystus bleekeri</i>	Day's Mystus	Golsa	Medium	R
133		<i>Mystus cavasius</i>	Gangetic Mystus	Kabasi	Medium	R-E
134		<i>Mystus gulio</i>	Long Whiskers Catfish	Nuna	Large	E-R
135		<i>Mystus tengara</i>	Pyjama Catfish	Bujuri	Small	R
136		<i>Mystus vittatus</i>	Striped Dwarf Catfish	Tengra	Medium	R-E
137		<i>Rama chandramara</i>	Hummingbird Catfish	Gura	Small	R
138	Channidae	<i>Rita rita</i>	Whale Catfish	Rita	Large	R-E
139		<i>Sperata aor</i>	Long Whiskered catfish	Air	Large	R-E
140		<i>Sperata seenghala</i>	Giant River Catfish	Guizza Air	Large	R-E
141		<i>Chaca chaca</i>	Squarehead Catfish	Chaka	Medium	R
142		<i>Clarias batrachus</i>	Walking Catfish	Magur	Medium	R-E
143		<i>Conta conta</i>	Conta Catfish	Kutakanti	Small	R
144		<i>Eretistes pusillus</i>		Kutakanti	Tiny	R
145		<i>Laguvia shawi</i>		Kani	Tiny	R
146		<i>Laguvia ribeiroi</i>		Tengra		
147		<i>Heteropneustes fossilis</i>	Painted Catfish	Kani	Small	R
148	Olyridae	<i>Olyra kempfi</i>		Tengra		
149	Pangasidae	<i>Pangasius pangasius</i>	Stinging Catfish	Shing	Medium	R-E
150	Plotosidae	<i>Plotosus canius</i>			Medium	R
151	Schilbeidae	<i>Ailia coila</i>		Kain	Large	R-E
152		<i>Ailia punctata</i>	Gangetic Ailia	Kajoli	Small	R-E
153		<i>Clarias garua</i>	Jamuna Ailia	Kajoli	Small	R-E
154		<i>Eutropiichthys murius</i>	Garua Vacha	Ghaura	Large	R-E
155		<i>Eutropiichthys vacha</i>	Muri Vacha	Muri Bacha	Medium	R
156		<i>Pseudeutropius atherinoides</i>	Batchwa Vacha	Bacha	Large	R-E
157	Siluridae	<i>Silonia silondia</i>	Indian Potasi	Batasi	Small	R-E
158		<i>Ompok bimaculatus</i>			Large	R-E
159		<i>Ompok pabda</i>	Silond Catfish	Shilong	Large	R-E
160		<i>Ompok pabo</i>	Butter Catfish	Kani Pabda	Large	R-E
161	Sisoridae	<i>Pterocryptis gangelica</i>	Pabdah Catfish	Pabda	Medium	R
162		<i>Wallago attu</i>	Pabo Catfish	Modhu	Medium	R
163		<i>Bagarius bagarius</i>		Pabda		
164		<i>Bagarius yarrellii</i>	Freshwater Shark	Boal	Large	R-E
165		<i>Gagata cenia</i>	Dwarf Goonch	Baghair	Large	R-E
166		<i>Gagata gagata</i>	Goonch	Baghair	Large	R-E
			Clown Catfish	Gang Tengra	Medium	R-E
			Yellow Spotted Trevally	Gang Tengra	Medium	R-E



	Family	Species	English name	Bengali name	Type of fish	Habitat
167		<i>Gagata youssoufii</i>	Indian Gagata	Gang Tengra	Small	R E
168		<i>Gogangra viridescens</i>	Huddah Nangra	Gang Tengra	Small	R E
169		<i>Glyptothorax cavia</i>	Sisorid Torrent Catfish	Kani Tengra	Medium	R
170		<i>Glyptothorax telchitta</i>	Sisorid Torrent Catfish	Dhal Magur	Small	R
171		<i>Glyptothorax sp. (Koilla Khal)</i>			Small	R
172		<i>Glyptothorax sp. (Jagat River)</i>			Small	R
173		<i>Hara hara</i>	Moth Catfish	Kutakanti	Small	R
174		<i>Hara jerdoni</i>	Asian Stone Catfish	Kutakanti	Tiny	R
175		<i>Nangra bucculenta</i>		Gang Tengra	Tiny	R
176		<i>Nangra nangra</i>		Gang Tengra	Tiny	R
177		<i>Nangra ornata</i>		Gang Tengra	Tiny	R
178		<i>Pseudecheneis sulcata</i>	Sucker Throat Catfish		Tiny	R
179		<i>Sisor rhabdophorus</i>	Whiptail Catfish	Chenua	Medium	R
Order₇ Cyprinodontiformes (1 fish)						
180	Aplocheilidae	<i>Aplocheilus panchax</i>	Blue Panchax	Kanpona	Tiny	R E
Order₉ Syngnathiformes (3 fishes)						
181	Syngnathidae	<i>Ichthiocampus carce</i>	Freshwater Pipefish	Kumirer Khil	Small	R E
182		<i>Microphis cuncalus</i>	Crocodile-tooth Pipefish	Kumirer Khil	Small	R E
183		<i>Microphis deocata</i>	Deocata Pipefish	Kumirer Khil	Small	R E
Order₉ Synbranchiformes (6 fishes)						
184	Synbranchidae	<i>Monopterus cuchia</i>	Mud Eel	Kuchia	Large	R E
185		<i>Ophisternon bengalense</i>	Bengal Eel	Bamos	Large	R E
186	Mastacembelidae	<i>Mastacembelus armatus</i>	Zig Zag Eel	Baim	Large	R E
187		<i>Macrognathus aculeatus</i>	Lesser Spiny Eel	Tara Baim	Medium	R E
188		<i>Macrognathus aral</i>	One-stripe Spinyeel	Tara Baim	Medium	R E
189		<i>Macrognathus pauculus</i>	Barred Spiny Eel	Guchi	Medium	R E
Order₉ Perciformes (87 fishes)						
190	Ambassidae	<i>Ambassis nalu</i>	Scalloped Perchlet	Nalu Chanda	Small	R E
191		<i>Chanda nama</i>	Blongate Glass Perchlet	Chanda	Small	R E
192		<i>Parambassis ranga</i>	Indian Glassy Fish	Ranga Chanda	Small	R E
193		<i>Parambassis lala</i>	Highfin Glassy Perchlet	Lal Chanda	Tiny	R E
194		<i>Pseudambassis baculis</i>	Himalayan Glassy Perchlet	Phopa Chanda	Tiny	R E
195	Anabantidae	<i>Anabas cobejus</i>	Gangetic Koi	Koi	Medium	R
196		<i>Anabas testudineus</i>	Climbing Perch	Koi	Medium	R
197	Badidae	<i>Badis badis</i>	Blue Perch	Napit Koi	Tiny	R
198		<i>Badis chittagongis</i>	Blue Perch	Napit Koi	Tiny	R
199	Centropomidae	<i>Lates calcarifer</i>	Giant Perch	Bhetki	Large	E-R
200	Channidae	<i>Channa barca</i>	Barca Snakehead	Pipla	Large	R



	Family	Species	English name	Bengali name	Type of fish	Habitat
201		<i>Channa gachua</i>	Dwarf Snakehead	Cheng	Medium	R
202		<i>Channa marulius</i>	Great Snakehead	Gojar	Large	E R
203		<i>Channa orientalis</i>	Walking Snakehead	Raga	Medium	E R
204		<i>Channa punctata</i>	Spotted Snakehead	Taki	Medium	E R
205		<i>Channa striata</i>	Snakehead Murrel	Shol	Large	E R
206	Datnioididae	<i>Datnioides polota</i>	Four-handed Tigerfish	Rekha	Medium	E R
207	Eleotridae	<i>Butis butis</i>	Duckbill Sleeper	Kuli	Small	E R
208		<i>Butis melanostigma</i>	Black-spotted Gudgeon	Kalo Baila	Medium	E R
209		<i>Eleotris fusca</i>	Dusky Sleeper	Bhut Baila	Medium	E R
210		<i>Eleotris lutea</i>	Lutea Sleeper	Kuli	Small	E R
211	Gobiidae	<i>Acentrogobius caninus</i>	Tropical Sand Goby	Nuna Baila	Small	E R
212		<i>Acentrogobius cyanomos</i>		Nuna Baila	Small	E R
213		<i>Acentrogobius viridipunctatus</i>	Spotted Green Goby	Nuna Baila	Small	E R
214		<i>Apocryptes bato</i>		Dali Chewa	Medium	E R
215		<i>Awaous grammepomus</i>	Scribbled Goby	Bele	Small	E R
216		<i>Awaous guamensis</i>	Pacific River Goby	Baila	Small	E R
217		<i>Boleophthalmus boddarti</i>	Boeddarts Goggle-eyed Goby	Dahuk	Small	E R
218		<i>Brachygobius nurus</i>	Bumblebee Goby	Nuna Baila	Tiny	E R
219		<i>Eugnathogobius oligactis</i>	Tiger Goby		Tiny	E R
220		<i>Glossogobius giuris</i>	Tank Goby	Bele	Medium	E R
221		<i>Gobiopsis macrostoma</i>	Longjaw Goby	Chuna Bele	Small	E R
222		<i>Gobiopterus chuno</i>	Glass Goby	Raja Chewa	Tiny	E R
223		<i>Odontamblyopus rubicundus</i>	Rubicundus Eelgoby	Nuna Baila	Medium	E R
224		<i>Oxyurichthys microlepis</i>	Maned Goby	Dali Chewa	Small	E R
225		<i>Parapocryptes batoides</i>		Dahuk	Medium	E R
226		<i>Periophthalmodon schlosseri</i>	Giant Mudskipper	Dahuk Chewa	Medium	E R
227		<i>Periophthalmodon barbarus</i>	Atlantic Mudskipper	Dahuk	Small	E R
228		<i>Pseudopocryptes elongatus</i>	Pointed-tailed Goby	Raja Chewa	Medium	E R
229		<i>Scartelaos histophorus</i>	Walking Goby	Sada Chewa	Small	E R
230		<i>Stigmatogobius sadanundia</i>	Spotted Goby	DetoChanda	Small	E R
231		<i>Taenioides buchanani</i>	Burmese Gobyeel	Tak Chanda	Medium	E R
232		<i>Taenioides cirratus</i>	Bearded Eel Goby	Thutni Chanda	Medium	E R
233		<i>Trypauchen vagina</i>	Burrowing Goby	Tak Chanda	Medium	E R
234	Lenognathidae	<i>Gazza minuta</i>	Toothed Ponyfish	Tak Chanda	Small	E R
235		<i>Secutor ruconius</i>	Pignosed Ponyfish	Samudra Koi	Small	E R
236		<i>Secutor insidiator</i>	Slenderbarred Ponyfish	Bata	Small	E R
237		<i>Leiognathus bindus</i>	Orangefinned Ponyfish	Bata	Small	E R
238		<i>Leiognathus equulus</i>	Greater Ponyfish	Bata	Small	E R
239	Lobitidae	<i>Lobotes surinamensis</i>	Atlantic Tripletail	Bata	Large	E R
240	Mugilidae	<i>Liza parvata</i>	Broad-mouthed Mullet	Parse	Medium	E R



	Family	Species	English name	Bengali name	Type of fish	Habitat
241		<i>Liza parsia</i>	Gold-spot Mullet	Parse	Small	E R
242		<i>Liza subviridis</i>	Greenback Mullet	Bata	Large	E R
243		<i>Mugil cephalus</i>	Striped Mullet	Bhangon Bata	Large	E R
244		<i>Rhinomugil corsula</i>	Corsula Mullet	Khorsula	Large	E R
245		<i>Sicamugil cascasia</i>	Yellowtail Mullet	Kachki Bata	Small	R
246	Nandidae	<i>Nandus nandus</i>	Gangetic Leaffish	Bheda	Small	R E
247	Oosphronemidae	<i>Colisa chuna</i>	Honey Gourami	Chuna Kholisa	Tiny	R
248		<i>Colisa fasciata</i>	Banded Gourami	Kholisa	Small	R
249		<i>Colisa labiosa</i>	Thick-lipped Gourami		Small	R
250		<i>Colisa lalia</i>	Dwarf Gourami	Lal Kholisa	Small	R
251		<i>Ctenops nobilis</i>	Frail Gourami	Neftani	Small	R E
252		<i>Pseudosphromenus cupanus</i>	Spiketail Paradisefish	Koi	Small	R E
253	Platycephalidae	<i>Trichopsis vittata</i>	Croaking Gourami		Small	R
254		<i>Platycephalus indicus</i>	Bartail Flathead	Mur Baila	Large	E R
255	Polynemidae	<i>Eleutheronema tetradactylum</i>	Four Finger Threadfin	Taila	Large	E R
256		<i>Leptomelanosoma indicum</i>	Indian Tasselfish	Lakhua	Large	E R
257		<i>Polydactylus sexfilis</i>	Sixfinger Threadfin	Son a Taila	Large	E R
258		<i>Polynemus paradiseus</i>	Paradise Threadfin	Taposhi	Medium	E R
259	Scatophagidae	<i>Scatophagus argus</i>	Spotted Scat	Bistara	Medium	E R
260	Sciaenidae	<i>Dendrophysa russelii</i>	Goatee Croaker	Goti Poa	Medium	E R
261		<i>Johnius coitor</i>	Coitor Croaker	Koitor	Medium	E R
262		<i>Johnius gangeticus</i>	Gangetic Bola	Bata	Small	E R
263		<i>Johnius vogleri</i>	Sharpnose Hammer Croaker	Poa	Medium	E R
264		<i>Macrospinosa cuja</i>	Cuja Bola	Kuizza Poa	Large	E R
265		<i>Otolithoides pama</i>	Pama Croaker	Poa	Large	E R
266		<i>Panna microdon</i>	Panna Croaker	Poa	Medium	E R
267		<i>Pterotolithus maculatus</i>	Botched Tigertoothed Croaker	Goti Poa	Large	E R
268	Sillaginidae	<i>Sillaginopsis panjus</i>	Flathead Sillago	Tular Dandi	Large	E R
269	Sparidae	<i>Acanthopagrus latus</i>	Yellow Seabream	Datina	Large	E R
270	Stromatidae	<i>Parastromateus niger</i>	Black Pomfret	Rup Chanda	Large	E R
271		<i>Pampus argenteus</i>	Silver Pomfret	Pholi Chanda	Large	E R
272		<i>Pampus chinensis</i>	Chinese Pomfret	Rup Chanda	Large	E R
273	Terapontidae	<i>Terapon jarbua</i>	Jarbua Terapon	Borguni	Medium	E R
274	Toxotidae	<i>Toxotes chatareus</i>	Largescale Archerfish	Poitke	Medium	E R
275	Trichiuridae	<i>Eupleurogrammus muticus</i>	Smallhead Hairtail	Chhuri	Large	E R
276		<i>Lepturacanthus savala</i>	Savalani Hairtail	Chhuri	Large	E R
Order: Beloniformes (7 fishes)						
277	Adrianichthyidae	<i>Oryzias caenaticus</i>	Spotted Ricefish	Beehi	Tiny	
278		<i>Oryzias dancena</i>	Ricefish	Beehi	Tiny	
279	Belonidae	<i>Xenentodon cancila</i>	Asian Needlefish	Kakila	Medium	
280	Hemiramphidae	<i>Dermogenys brachynotopterus</i>	Gangetic Hallbeak	Ekthuita	Small	



	Family	Species	English name	Bengali name	Type of fish	Habitat
281		<i>Dermogenys pusilla</i>	Wrestling Halfbeak	Ekthuita	Small	R.E
282		<i>Hyporhamphus limbatus</i>	Congaturi Halfbeak	Ekthuita	Small	E.R
283		<i>Zenarchopterus ectuntio</i>	Ectuntio Halfbeak	Ekthuita	Small	E.R
Order 12 Pleuronectiformes (7 Fishes)						
284	Cynoglossidae	<i>Cynoglossus arel</i>	Largescale Tonguesole	Kukurjib	Medium	E.R
285		<i>Cynoglossus cynoglossus</i>	Bengal Tonguesole	Kukurjib	Small	E.R
286		<i>Cynoglossus lingua</i>	Long Tonguesole	Lomba	Medium	E.R
287		<i>Paraplagusia bilineata</i>	Doublelined Tonguesole	Duline Kukurjib	Medium	E.R
288	Paralichthyidae	<i>Pseudorhombus arsius</i>	Largetooth Sand Floander	Serbeti	Medium	E.R
289	Soleidae	<i>Brachirus orientalis</i>	Orientalsole	Botpata	Medium	E.R
290		<i>Brachirus pan</i>	Pan Sole	Kathalpata	Small	E.R
Order 13 Tetraodontiformes (3 Fishes)						
291	Tetraodontidae	<i>Chelonodon patoca</i>	Milkspotted Puffer	Potka	Medium	R.E
292		<i>Tetraodon cutcutia</i>	Ocellated Pufferfish	Tapa	Small	R.E
293		<i>Tetraodon fluviatilis</i>	Green Pufferfish	Potka	Medium	E.R

* Only most commonly used local names are given

** R: Live only in freshwater rivers. R-E: The major habitat is freshwater rivers but also available in coastal rivers.

E-R: The major habitat is coastal rivers but also available in freshwater rivers

A number of fishes included in the list can also be found in marine waters

The biodiversity of indigenous fishes of Bangladesh has come under grave threat in recent years. Due to manifold reasons, many species of fish are disappearing from the country's waterbodies. The day is not too far when many of our fishes will be extinct in our waters. Therefore, documenting all the indigenous fishes of the country carries an enormous value. In this treatise, we have attempted to record all the fishes documented between 1822 and the present day. The key reason for doing so is this: if we do not know what we had, how will we realize what we are losing now and what else we are going to lose in the coming days? We believe that the checklist presented here will provoke the thought of the people of all strata - consumers, fishers, fish farmers, researchers, donors, policy makers and others, and will encourage them to come forward to find effective ways to preserve fish biodiversity - the pride, heritage and livelihood of Bangladesh - before many species are lost forever.