



## Comments on “An updated and annotated list of lizards (Reptilia: Sauria) based on a review of distribution records and checklist of Indian reptiles by P.D. Venugopal”

**Zeeshan A. Mirza**

Zoology Department, Bhavans College, Andheri (W), Mumbai 400058, Maharashtra, India.  
Email: snakeszeeshan@gmail.com

Venugopal (2010a) made a noteworthy attempt in updating the list of Indian lizards and also provide annotations on the present taxonomic status of the species. In the first attempt, Venugopal (2010a) had failed to include several gekkonid lizards which he rectified by adding two species *Geckoella albofasciatus* and *Eublepharis fuscus* updating the list of Indian lizards from 199 to 201 (Venugopal 2010b).

Apart from the above mentioned species, Venugopal (2010a & 2010b) failed to mention two gekkonid lizards occurring in India. Giri et al. (2009) described *Cnemaspis kolhapurensis* from Kolhapur District, Maharashtra. Venugopal (2010a & 2010b) perhaps was unaware of the description of *C. kolhapurensis*. Another gekkonid lizard *Tropicolotes persicus euphorbiacola* Minton, Anderson & Anderson 1970 was reported by Agarwal (2009) for the first time from India from the state of Rajasthan in Nabh Dongar, Jaisalmer District.

Zug et al. (2007) suggested *H. mahendrai* Shukla, 1983 to be considered a synonym of *H. brookii*. But this has not been formally done as the type specimens are lost or have not been deposited in a recognized museum. Considering the fact that *H. brookii* is paraphyletic as demonstrated by Carranza & Arnold (2005) and supported by Mahony (2009), we propose to retain it until further

specimens from the type locality are examined.

Recently, Javed et al. (2009) reported *H. subtriedrus* from Araku Valley, Eastern Ghats of Andhra Pradesh and presented proofs on its distinctness from *H. triedrus*. The population referred to as '*H. subtriedrus*' by Javed et al. (2009) and Sanyal & Dasgupta (1990) from Andhra Pradesh and Chhattisgarh in fact belong to *H. maculatus* complex rendering the systematic status of *H. subtriedrus* unresolved (Javed et al. in press). Thus I propose *H. subtriedrus* to be listed as a species until it is formally synonymized.

Considering the above additions and comments the present number of Indian lizards would be 205 and not 201 as updated by Venugopal (2010b).

## REFERENCES

- Agarwal, I. (2009).** First record of *Tropicolotes persicus euphorbiacola* Minton, Anderson and Anderson 1970 (Sauria: Gekkonidae) from the republic of India, with notes on its habitat and natural history. *Russian Journal of Herpetology* 16 (2): 1–5.
- Carranza, S. & E.N. Arnold (2005).** Systematics, biogeography, and evolution of *Hemidactylus* geckos (Reptilia: Gekkonidae) elucidated using mitochondrial DNA sequences. *Molecular Phylogenetics and Evolution* 38: 531–545.
- Giri, V., A. Bauer & K. Gaikwad (2009).** A new ground-dwelling species of *Cnemaspis* Strauch (Squamata: Gekkonidae) from the northern Western Ghats, Maharashtra, India. *Zootaxa* 2164: 49–60.
- Javed, S.M.M., S. Saravanan, F. Tampal & C. Srinivasulu (2009).** Occurrence and comparison of Jerdon's Gecko *Hemidactylus subtriedrus* Jerdon 1853 with Termite Hill Gecko *Hemidactylus triedrus* (Daudin, 1802) from Ananthagiri Hills, northern Eastern Ghats, India. *Journal of Threatened Taxa* 1(7): 366–369.
- Javed, S.M.M., Z.A. Mirza, C. Srinivasulu, B.H.C.K. Murthy & F. Tampal (in press)** A divergent population of *Hemidactylus maculatus maculatus* Duméril & Bibron, 1836 (Reptilia: Sauria: Gekkonidae) from the northern Eastern Ghats, India. *Russian Journal of Herpetology*.
- Kluge, A.G. (2001)** Gekkotan lizard taxonomy. *Hamadryad* 26: 1–209.
- Mahony, S. (2009).** A new species of gecko of the genus *Hemidactylus* (Reptilia: Squamata: Gekkonidae) from Andhra Pradesh, India. *Russian Journal of Herpetology* 16(1): 1–8.
- Venugopal, P.D. (2010a).** An updated and annotated list of Indian lizards (Reptilia: Sauria) based on a review of distribution records and checklists of Indian reptiles. *Journal of Threatened Taxa* 2(3): 725–738.
- Venugopal, P.D. (2010b).** Addendum to An updated and annotated list of Indian lizards (Reptilia: Sauria) based on a review of distribution records and checklists of Indian reptiles. *Journal of Threatened Taxa* 2(4): 848.
- Zug, G.R., J.V. Vindum & M.S. Koo (2007).** Burmese *Hemidactylus* (Reptilia Squamata Gekkonidae): taxonomic notes on tropical Asian *Hemidactylus*. *Proceedings of the California Academy of Sciences* 58: 387–405.

Date of publication (online): 26 May 2010  
Date of publication (print): 26 May 2010  
ISSN 0974-7907 (online) | 0974-7893 (print)

### Manuscript details:

Ms # o2449  
Received 01 May 2010

**Citation:** Mirza, Z.A. (2010). Comments on “An updated and annotated list of lizards (Reptilia: Sauria) based on a review of distribution records and checklist of Indian reptiles by P.D. Venugopal”. *Journal of Threatened Taxa* 2(5): 898.

**Copyright:** © Zeeshan A. Mirza 2010. Creative Commons Attribution 3.0 Unported License. JoTT allows unrestricted use of this article in any medium for non-profit purposes, reproduction and distribution by providing adequate credit to the authors and the source of publication.

OPEN ACCESS | FREE DOWNLOAD

